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November 9th, 2011 ■ Issue No. 11 ■ Volume 102

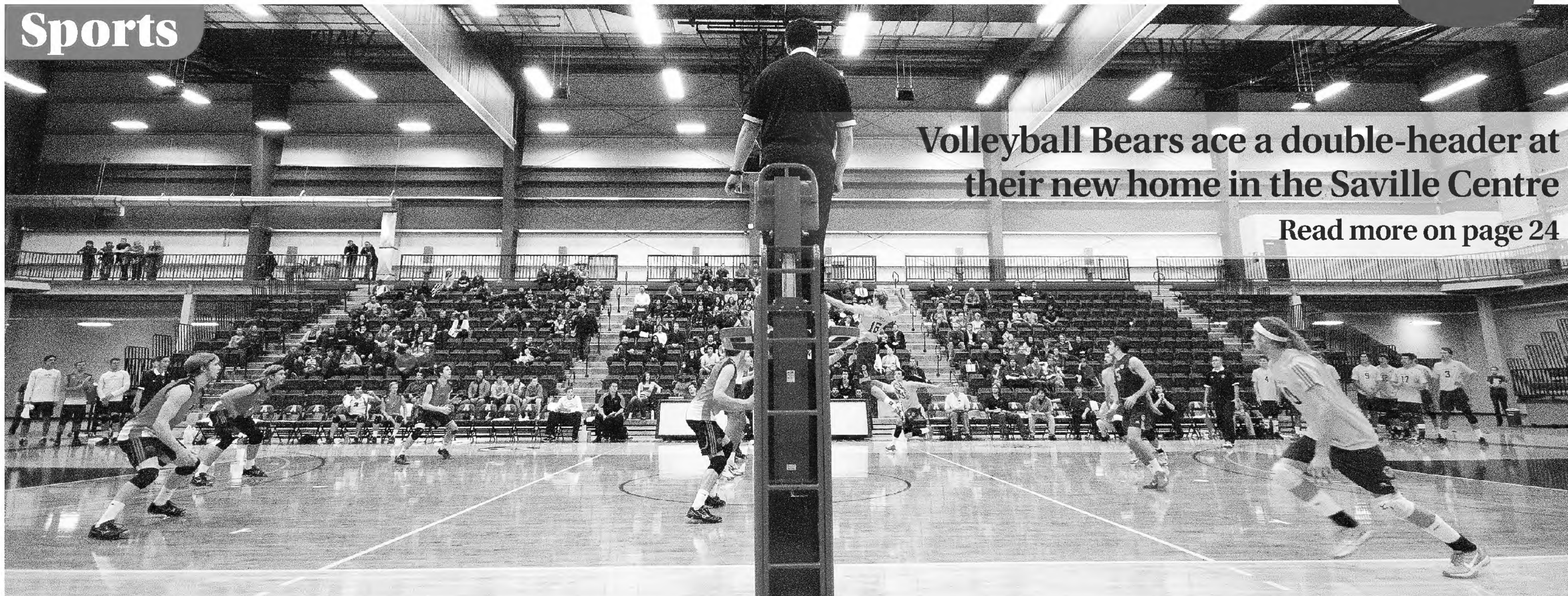
THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Sports

Volleyball Bears ace a double-header at their new home in the Saville Centre

Read more on page 24



ZAIN NAQVI

CAMPUS CRIME

Crime rate decreasing on campus

April Hudson

STAFF REPORTER ■ @APRIL_HUDSON

Campus crime at the University of Alberta has dropped an average of 40 per cent since the beginning of the school year, according to statistics released by University of Alberta Protective Services.

Director Bill Mowbray said that a major contribution to this dramatic decrease in crime is due to the willingness of people within the U of A community to pick up the telephone and report suspicious circumstances. In addition, UAPS has a more tangible presence on campus due to the restructuring of shift schedules two years ago, which puts seven officers on campus at any one time instead of five.

UAPS currently receives about 50 calls per month, many of which come from people spotting suspicious behaviour before an event actually takes place.

"Whenever those Spidey-senses kick in with people, they're generally right," Mowbray said. "That gives our officers an opportunity to go over there and deal with a matter before an incident takes place, and before anyone even becomes victimized."

Mowbray said in most cases, those suspicious people are not affiliated with the university in any legitimate way.

"They are here for nefarious reasons," Mowbray said. "When our officers find that out, they generally (remove) them from campus."

PLEASE SEE **CRIME RATE** • PAGE 4

THEATRE REVIEW



SUPPLIED: IAN JACKSON

Historical re-imagining with *Cleopatra's Sister*

Alex Migdal

NEWS EDITOR ■ @ALEXEM

"Why would I clear a path to the throne only to let you be the woman to walk it?" seethes Cleopatra to her sister Arsinoe, eyes cold and distant, disdain marking her delicate features.

It's sisterly rivalry at its finest in Trevor Schmidt's latest production, *Cleopatra's Sister*. Tense moments are aplenty in the historical re-imagining that treats its audience to a riveting glimpse of the sisters reunited after six years

apart. The production packs a punch, transforming the stage into an emotional battle arena and pitting the two sisters against each other with painful and even bloody results.

But why such contempt between the two sisters? Part of it might be Cleopatra's lust for blood and her revelation that previous deaths in their family might not have been an accident. Or perhaps it's Arsinoe's sense of inferiority to her sister and pervading sense of abandonment. Regardless, what it boils down to is the mantle of Queen of Egypt, and the sisters'

quests to bear the royal title.

As expected, historical context is a required component of the play, with tales of Julius Caesar's recent death and Cleopatra's unorthodox methods of conquest revealed through long streams of dialogue. While the play is careful not to tread too heavily on the historical underpinnings of its narrative, all the dialogue occasionally leads to a lack of urgency in the plot's progress.

PLEASE SEE **CLEOPATRA** • PAGE 17

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colophon

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campus crimebeat

COMPILED BY Alex Migdal

GET OFF MY LAN
Staff at the Second Cup at University Terrace reported three males loitering outside their shop on Oct. 31.
University of Alberta Protective Services officers attended the area and spoke to the three unaffiliated males, who told the officers they were trying to use the free Wi-Fi for their laptop. The men were co-operative and agreed to leave the area.

WAKEUP CALL
UAPS officers observed a male asleep on a couch on the second floor of the Heritage Medical building on Nov. 3.
The male was not happy about being woken up and refused to identify himself to UAPS officers. The male was escorted from campus.

THEFT HERTZ
On Nov. 3, a male attended UAPS to report that his laptop had been stolen on Oct. 28 from the lobby area of the CCIS building.
The owner had left his laptop unattended. UAPS wants to remind owners of laptops not to leave them unattended, even for a short period of time.

BOOKED AT THE LIBRARY
On Nov. 4, UAPS received a report of a suspicious male "scoping out property" in Rutherford library. UAPS officers attended the area and located a male leaving the library.
When asked what he was doing in the area, he replied that he was conducting research on "child psychology," even though he had no notes or books to support his claim. The male was warned about his behavior and told to leave campus.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

apology

The Gateway wishes to apologize regarding the publication of two submissions to Three Lines Free, reading "Anybody feel like

hotboxing the teepee by Quad?" and "I would totally be down Spaghetti pockets."
The Gateway wishes to apologize for the publication of these culturally-insensitive comments and will be monitoring Three

Lines Free more closely in the future.
Students are free to express their concerns by writing a Letter to the Editor, of no longer than 350 words, at letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Alana Willerton + Jacquelin Gregoire



Zack Caines SCIENCE II
"I might go out to Banff. I just like seeing the mountains whenever I can."



Keiver Higgins ARTS I
"I'm doing absolutely nothing. Just hanging out with people and making up for all the crappy midterms I just wrote."



Lisa Ringle ALES III
"I'm actually in a leadership program. On Saturday, I'm going to the mountains and spending two days there."



Elise Hervieux ARTS II
"If Marmot Basin opens, my family and I are going to go up there and ski."



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Former CEO criticizes current state of Canadian universities

Andrew Jeffrey
NEWS STAFF ■ ANDREW_JEFFREY

Despite the warning he jokingly put forward, the emergency exits weren't needed and riots weren't started following Gwyn Morgan's polarizing lecture at the University of Alberta last week, where he spoke about running universities more like a business for profitable benefit.

In the U of A's first edition of the 2011-12 Innovative Leaders Lecture Series, Morgan gave a nearly hour-long presentation that cast a critical light on current practices in Canadian universities.

Morgan, a columnist for the *Globe and Mail* and former CEO of EnCana Corporation, has written two hotly-contested articles for the paper that have outlined his position on the role of Canadian universities.

"The number one challenge facing universities in the 21st century is developing higher-level education with the knowledge and skills needed by our country at a lower cost," Morgan said during his lecture.

The declining quality of education in Canada is a major factor in this challenge, according to Morgan. A key issue he cited was professors more focused on research than teaching, and who lecture on material students could find from other sources.

Morgan related these concerns to the education of his nephew — a second-year engineering student at UBC — who argued that students aren't getting their money's worth from professors.

"The problem is the one-way lecture style produces boring and repeat course content," Morgan quoted his nephew as saying. "The time it takes a professor to transpose a textbook onto the chalkboard serves absolutely no purpose."

"The number one challenge facing universities in the 21st century is developing higher-level education with the knowledge and skills needed by our country at a lower cost."

GWYN MORGAN
GLOBE AND MAIL COLUMNIST

According to Morgan, universities are producing a large number of graduates that aren't contributing to valuable areas of the workforce. He believes problems negatively affecting the Canadian workforce and economy could be prevented if students enroll in programs that will best support Canada's economy.

"It's clear that Canadian universities are turning out large numbers of graduates, while failing to graduate nearly enough professionals critical directly to our future," Morgan said.

"More than twice as many students (compared to engineering) are accepted into programs with low job prospects, such as visual and performing arts, humanities and social work."

"Many (medicine) applicants

leave Canada to pursue their dreams elsewhere," he added. "This, in a country where many citizens have no access to a doctor. This is a travesty that gravitates motivated, capable students to menial jobs out of university, when they could be helping our country succeed in a competitive world."

But many in the audience weren't convinced by the lecture. Some disagreed with the assertion that universities should focus more on preparing students for the workforce than providing general knowledge offered in degrees with "lower job prospects."

"There's this expectation that businesses should be able to count on the education being received in universities in order to feed the labour force, and there's this devolution of responsibility downwards in terms of accountability," said Cory Dawson, a graduate student in education.

"(Businesses) don't want to put in that extra two-thirds of the funding in order to pay for the education. ... They like the publicly-funded infrastructure to create their workers," Dawson said.

"My thoughts are that if they're so dissatisfied, why don't they do it themselves? It's pretty obvious why they're not doing it themselves. It's because the incentives are pretty low financially."

Morgan also presented his analysis of these issues in a meeting with the General Faculties Council earlier that day in hopes that universities can educate students to better support Canada's economy.

members were violating more than just their suspension.

"It wasn't just that they weren't supposed to be doing what they were doing. It's that they were doing something that no student group is allowed to do, which is soliciting on campus," Thomas said.

"As a student, you have a specific right to be left alone. People aren't allowed to come up to you randomly and try to promote stuff. It has to be with your consent, and anything else is solicitation."

Mowbray said no further incidences of recruitment on campus from DKE has been reported since September.

COUNTDOWN TO SYMPOSIUM

More than 130 student submissions have been received for the fast-approaching Undergraduate Research Symposium, a sizeable jump from the Students' Union goal of 100 submissions.

"We're really happy considering this is our first year," said Emerson Csorba, SU Vice-President (Academic).

Csorba noted that the majority of submissions have come from the Faculty of Science, but said there were a number of submissions from faculties like Arts, Engineering and ALES.

A fifth of the participants will receive a total of 20 scholarships at the symposium, said Csorba. He added that the symposium has amassed about \$8,000 in funding.

As part of the final leg of symposium preparations, the symposium team has launched a "Big Idea" contest. Students will be to fill out ballots all over campus and submit an "interesting question." Csorba said the most interesting questions

will be reviewed by a panel of students and professor judges, and the four students with the most interesting questions will each receive \$250.

"Part of my concern about the symposium was that it is limited to students already doing research, and who have high GPAs," Csorba said. "I think that this contest will help make the symposium more inclusive to the whole campus."

"It's difficult to turn down somebody," Csorba said of the symposium submissions. "As it stands, we've said 'yes' to 120 students. We're working hard to accommodate everyone."

BOG CHAIR STEPS DOWN

Gordon J. Clanachan has been appointed the acting chair of the Board of Governors effective Nov. 1, following the resignation of former chair Brian Heidecker.

Heidecker stepped down as chair after assuming the position for nearly six years. He oversaw a period of significant expansion at the U of A, including the investment of \$2.5 million in the campus and the addition of more than three million square feet of space since 2000.

In addition to his extensive committee service on the board, Clanachan served as a vice-chair and public member of the board prior to taking on the role of acting chair.

President Indira Samarasekera wrote on that U of A's blog that she is unsure when the minister of Advanced Education and Technology will appoint a chair through an order-in-council, but said the board will be led by Clanachan's "able hands" until then.

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FunDrive a success for CJSR

April Hudson

STAFF REPORTER • @APRIL_HUDSON

Sarah Edwards had been hoping to raise a total of \$125,000 for CJSR's yearly FunDrive. Although the station came close to that goal, the manager and executive director was more awestruck by something else — the overwhelming support of 125 volunteers.

"I just couldn't believe it," Edwards said. "I have never ever come across such amazing volunteers in my life."

It those was this group of volunteers who helped run CJSR's annual FunDrive, a fundraising event designed to raise \$125,000 to support the University of Alberta's campus radio station. This goal would be enough to fund about one third of CJSR's yearly operations.

Running Oct. 26-Nov. 2, the event went from 7 a.m. until midnight everyday. It featured a range of events, including an urban music showcase at The Temple and an indie rock showcase at Wunderbar last week. Overall, the FunDrive raised more than \$100,000, falling just short of its goal.

Edwards said the FunDrive as a whole did very well, but that the Wunderbar event was by far the most successful. That event featured seven different musicians, all of whom donated their time in order to fundraise with CJSR.

"We raised a lot of money that night, which was great," Edwards said. "All the musicians donated their time to come out and play, and everyone had such a great time. There was a line up all night."

Edwards said many local businesses donated food to CJSR's volunteers for lunch and dinner, and that CJSR now has 37 businesses partnered on their StarCard, a discount card for local Edmonton businesses which can be used at a variety of places.

This was Edwards first time organizing the FunDrive, but this year's fundraiser surpassed last year's \$97,000 total.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

"We haven't finished tallying it up yet," Edwards said. "We're still getting donations in for this year. I think we'll come out at about \$110,000. I think it speaks volumes for the community really getting involved. This truly is a campus community radio station."

Chad Brunet, CJSR's music librarian and volunteer coordinator, called this year's FunDrive a "smashing success."

"These things are very hard to put together," Brunet said. "For having a new person at the head of it who doesn't really know how crazy

it's going to get, everything went really smoothly."

The FunDrive brought back some old CJSR personalities, such as Roger Levesque, who was CJSR's music director in the late 1980s.

Brunet said CJSR tries to bring back former members during every FunDrive, but this year they got more than they were was expecting.

"I was really happy to kind of get the family back together," Brunet said. "It's like CJSR Christmas, right? Your relatives are showing up, and you haven't seen them in a year. It's great."

HEALTH CARE

Family medicine grads on the rise

Chair of family medicine department hopes to see 50 per cent enrolment in the future

Alana Willerton

NEWS STAFF • @ALANAWILLERTON

Over the past several years, the University of Alberta has seen a significant rise in the number of medical school graduates choosing to go into family medicine, sparking hope for the future of Alberta's deteriorating health care system.

Rick Spooner, chair of the U of A's department of family medicine and recently named Physician Innovator of the Year by the Edmonton Zone Medical Staff Association, estimates that about 43 per cent of students chose to go into family medicine in 2010, a notable increase from the 17 per cent that chose to do so in 2003.

Spooner believes the reasons behind the rise in numbers are multiple, but noted that talking to students before they've chosen a specialty has been key.

"It used to be that about the only time we would see these students was when they already had made their choice regarding a career," Spooner said. "We weren't involved to a great extent in their clinical teaching or even their pre-clinical teaching."

Spooner explained that the department of family medicine has been making efforts in the past few years to be more present and

available to students earlier on. One of these efforts includes a recent move of the family medicine clerkship rotation from fourth year to third year. Since the clerkship involves students accompanying a doctor to their office and actually working with them, this means that students are exposed to the idea of family medicine before they've made their fourth-year career decisions.

This change has contributed to family medicine becoming a popular choice for doctors not only in Alberta, but also across Canada.

"I think there's been something of a change in the attitude of the generation coming along now in that they may have a more societal focus to their thinking rather than one of individual achievement," said Spooner. "The idea of family medicine appeals to them, being a doctor of the people."

With medical schools across the country now saying that having a 50/50 split between primary care services provided by a family medicine doctors and specialties is ideal, the lack of family medicine doctors in Alberta has resulted in the imbalance of the province's health care services.

Spooner believes the university can hit the goal of 50 per cent enrolment in the near future. He

emphasized that maintaining this progress will be key, as they continue to instill their presence more in the first few years of medical students' education.

The department's early exposure of good role models to students has also added to a growing change in societal attitudes towards practicing family medicine. While stereotypes surrounding the difficulty level and merit of family medicine may have hindered its growth in the past, Spooner believes that students are now beginning to see the bigger picture when it comes to practicing family medicine.

"I think by early and often exposure to family doctors, we counteract some of the misconceptions that are purveyed to medical students about family medicine," Spooner said.

"We actually are practicing pretty high-level medicine with complicated and complex patients in many different settings. In fact, family medicine requires significant skill and knowledge to be successful at, just like anything else. It's not a default position for people who can't cut it in the real world."

"They see (this attitude) being role-modeled throughout their careers as medical students and they see that it's not a bad way to live at the end of the day."

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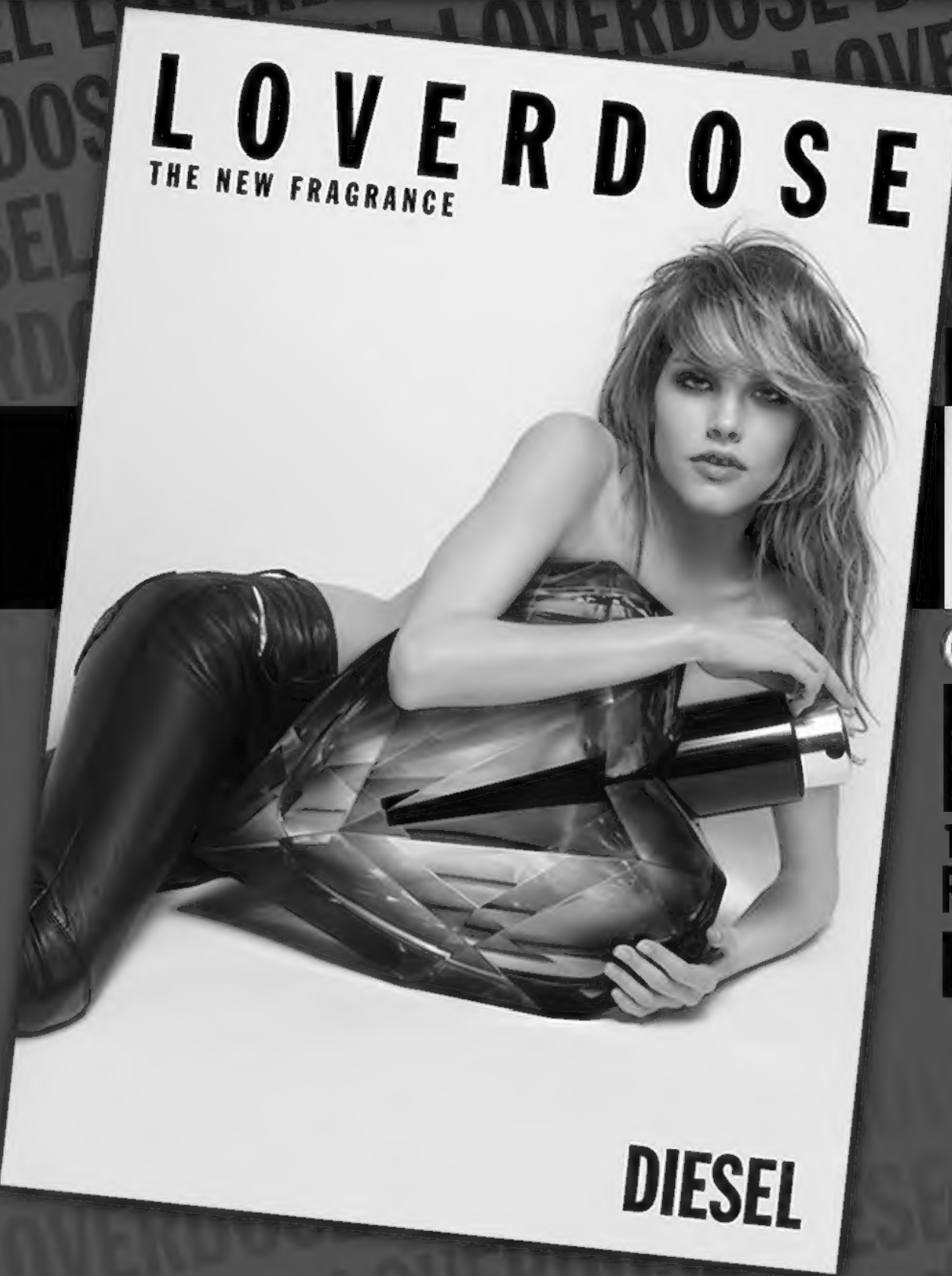
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TO INFINITY AND BEYOND Ian Mann is one of several researchers involved in a new concept study of radiation in space. RYAN BROMSGROVE

U of A awarded space research contract to study radiation

Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR • @RYAWESOME

A radiation detector intended for use on the International Space Station is the subject of a new concept study being developed by researchers at the U of A, following a \$250,000 contract awarded by the Canadian Space Agency for the project.

Named the Sweeping Energetic Particle Telescope, the device would sit on the outside of the ISS, detecting incoming high-energy protons.

Team lead and engineering professor Robert Fedosejevs said that the goal of SWEPT is to expand the detection technology in two ways.

“One is to allow for a sweeping motion of the detector ... so we can sweep it on command to map out the angular distribution of incoming radiation,” he said. “For example, on the space station, which is the prime target at the moment. But in future missions, perhaps to the Moon or Mars also.”

The other goal is to extend the energy range to deal with the incoming protons, which travel at energies between 10 and 1,000 mega-electron-volts.

These particles, coming from the solar corona and cosmic rays, can

damage astronauts’ tissue while they’re on space walks, and also release neutrons when interacting with the material of the space station.

These neutrons can be even more dangerous, and can make up half of the total radiation dose that astronauts receive while in low-Earth orbit.

Physics researcher Ian Mann is also involved with the project, and he noted the need for mapping the location of where the radiation originates.

“One of the exciting things is (we want) to establish the distribution of these particles in space as they arrive at the space station, and that’s not a uniform thing as (it) continues around its orbit,” Mann said.

“There are particular parts of the orbit that are harsher for radiation dosage. For example, close to a magnetic field anomaly in the South Atlantic.”

The concept study will take about five months, and involve an industry partner, as well as collaboration with professor Andrew Yau from the University of Calgary.

The team will conduct some tests at Canada’s national particle and nuclear physics lab in British Columbia and, at the end of the

period, will deliver a final report to the CSA.

“We’re hoping that they’ll be enthusiastic enough about the science and the technology and opportunity for Canada to add something, in addition to all the other work that’s going on at the space station, that they’ll say yes, let’s make this a Canadian instrument that we’ll actually build, and field on the International Space Station,” Fedosejevs said.

Canadian contributions to space science and technology are important parts of the international effort, with the Canadarm robotic arm already in place on the ISS, and with a Canadian astronaut taking command of the station next year.

But as well as potentially being a part of that global collaboration, the SWEPT project is one more aspect of an expanding space research program at the University of Alberta.

“We’re trying to make the university one of the leading centres for space study and technology in Canada and, in the last five years, we’ve come a long way since the original satellite proposals,” Fedosejevs said.

“Lots of students are interested in this area, so I think it’s a growth opportunity for the university.”

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CANDY RESEARCH

Bite-sized treats are not so innocent

Research reveals people consume more candy packaged in smaller quantities

Rachel Singer
NEWS STAFF

Candies wrapped in small packages may be doing consumers more harm than good, according to researchers at the University of Alberta and University of British Columbia.

Although manufacturers develop small-sized packages of treats as a way to help with portion control and reduce the amount of calories consumed, a three-year research project, which involved examining hundreds of people, concluded that most people from all ages and genders will eat more snacks if they are packaged in smaller quantities.

Jennifer Argo, a U of A marketing professor who co-authored the study, refers to this as the “small package effect.”

Argo points to the example of bowl of candy on Halloween. She said having multiple candies at people’s disposal rather than one candy bar leads to over-consumption, as people will gravitate

towards eating three or four smaller candies in a row.

Researchers such as Argo are also interested in understanding how consumers respond to different marketing stimuli, particularly packaging. Argo noted that the study not only looked at the size of the package, but specific information on the package.

This included its size, where caloric information appeared on the package, the amount of caloric content in the package, as well as whether or not people could actually see the product inside the package.

Argo and her study co-author Katherine White from UBC, found that the “small package effect” increases when caloric information is visible on the front of the package, especially if the intake is minimal.

People tend to eat more food in smaller packages because they think the small package will help them with their portion control, thus removing any worry about what they might actually be eating,

according to Argo.

“Consumers are accurate in their beliefs that small packages can help them with their portion control, if there is only one package available, because they really do have a smaller quantity and fewer calories,” Argo said.

“It’s not that the packages are lying to us at all because they are being very factual. The problem is that most of the time, when we are presented with small packages, we don’t just have one available to us.”

If people do choose to buy treats in small packages, Argo suggests taking one out and hiding the rest or buying one small package at a time. Argo also believes regulations should be set in place to prevent companies from advertising low calorie counts on tiny-sized packages, since they essentially have the same calorie count as larger packages.

“You pay more, you eat more — so you don’t end up helping yourself by buying small packages,” Argo said.

Opinion

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Volunteer

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Occupy Vancouver losing sight of its original purpose

WITH NEW INCARNATIONS OF THE OCCUPY PROTEST RISING IN cities across the globe, things were bound to start getting out of hand somewhere. In Vancouver, the tension between the protesters and the city is becoming a circus that threatens to eclipse any of the positive social change the Occupy movement is meant to stand for.

Besides deteriorating conditions in the tent city and an increasingly difficult standoff between the protesters and the city of Vancouver, the focus of the protest has been totally lost.

While the presence of corporate influence in democratic decisions and large wealth disparities are the issues at the centre of the original Occupy Wall Street protest, it's difficult to see how those are being addressed, or even discussed, in Vancouver.

On Friday, a series of "demands" from Occupy Vancouver was made public — a haphazard list of 60 economic, political, societal and environmental policies the protesters want put into practice.

While the list has been criticized even from within the protest itself, its mere presence indicates the loss of control that now rules the demonstration. The Occupy movement is meant to bring people together to recognize the systemic problems and inequalities present in our supposedly free societies, and so in this context, the demands from Occupy Vancouver completely annihilate the intended message of the protests.

Instead of facilitating a forum for discussion and peaceful dissent, the demands politicize the Occupy protests in all kinds of unintended ways. The list covers a vast variety of topics, demanding everything from the legalization of prostitution to Canada's withdrawal from NATO.

Some of the proposed ideas are incredibly complicated, buried in far more complex context than the demands seem to suggest: they want to restructure the police force, make post-secondary education free for students and shut down Alberta's oil sands — all the while raising minimum wage, repealing NAFTA and putting an end to discrimination in the workplace.

Then, of course, there's the biggest red flag showing that all this has spun wildly out of control: number 25 on the list, a demand for "an independent investigation into 9/11 which will examine all evidence including that which would support a false-flag operation."

As Occupy Vancouver fights to keep their protest alive in light of increasing calls for their dissolution, behaviour like this doesn't help their cause.

While there are undoubtedly people in the Occupy Vancouver movement who are still dedicated to the original intent of the protest, it's become a spectacle where everyone wants to gain attention for their own personal political agenda at the expense of hoping to accomplish anything.

No real change or useful debate can come of this — it only sets those who are already unsympathetic to the Occupy movement even more against the message and aim of the protests. The unorganized, uncontrolled nature of Occupy Vancouver does nothing but provide more ammunition for those who brush protesters off as a group of "crazy hippies."

Regardless of the rest of the drama unfolding around the Occupy Vancouver tent city — now including a death on Sunday and orders from city officials to take down the tents — the B.C. protest has other serious problems that need to be addressed before it can have a hope of continuing.

Otherwise, all it accomplishes is tarnishing the ideas the Occupy movement is supposed to stand for, harming the name of a social movement that deserves to be taken seriously without being subjected to sensationalism and unrelated attention-seeking.

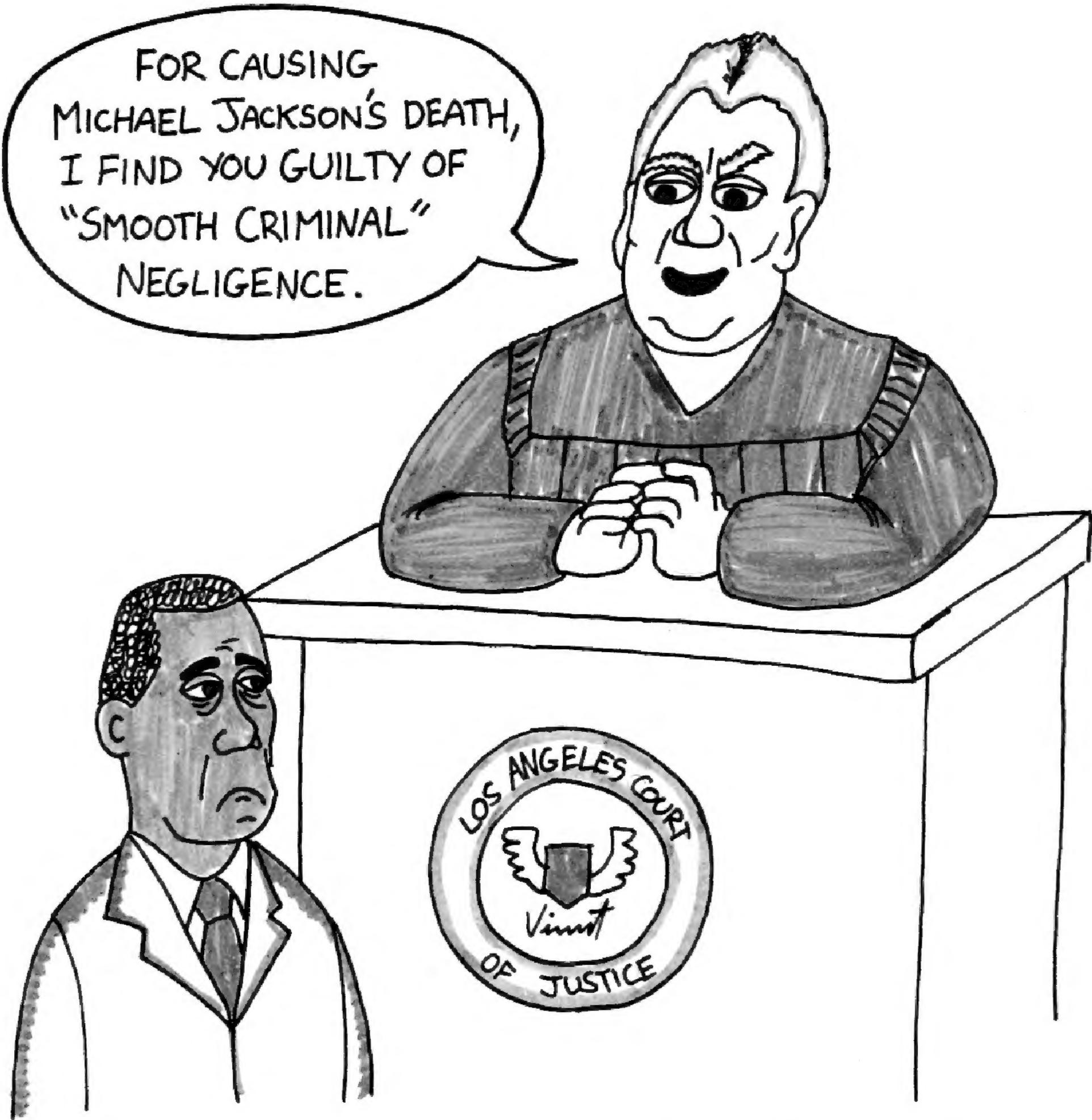
Madeline Smith
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

EDITORIAL HAIKU

Campus Starbucks not of sufficient quality

Starbucks, you shame me
Your failed U of A service
Tortures my taste buds

Alex Migdal
CAFFEINE EDITOR



JUDGE PASTOR ALSO CONSIDERED SAYING
"HE'S BAD, HE'S BAD, YOU KNOW IT."

ROSS VINCENT

letters to the editor

Teepee comments in Three Lines Free inappropriate

"Anybody feel like hotboxing the teepee by Quad?" I am appalled, that a comment like this would be made by anyone, let alone printed in our student newspaper. The common justification for media mistakes such as this is that they are "just a joke", and "can't we all just get over it?"

No.
I can't get over it. Comments like this delegitimize, not only an Indigenous student presence on campus, but the presence of a Native Studies Faculty. The teepee has become a symbol for Indigenous peoples throughout Canada, though it should be noted that not all Indigenous peoples lived in teepees.

For those nations in which teepees were a part of the culture, the teepee had teachings that accompanied it. These teachings persist when we build teepees today. Comments like this say, that these teachings are a joke, as is the existence of these teachings on campus.

As an Indigenous person I felt we had a broader Circle of Knowing of Indigenous cultures on campus than I had experienced outside of our university bubble. This comment tells me that maybe I was wrong.

As a Native Studies student I am here seeking knowledge about who I am, who we are as Indigenous peoples, and how we move through the world. This includes how we interact

with other faculties, other students, and the broader community.

This comment makes me feel threatened as a Native Studies student. Does the rest of the student body perceive us as a big joke? Please, if you are tempted to joke about us as Indigenous peoples, or as Native Studies students, come to one of our classes. Enter into our Circle of Knowing.

Or, at least stand with me in demanding a higher level of integrity from on-campus media. Indigenous peoples are subject to constant negative press in the broader community. I expect more from our academic community. After all, if even the university-educated can't show respect for Indigenous symbols, how can we expect anyone else to?

Some of you may be crying, "but what about free speech?" But is this speech is too free? Its anonymity allows no room for accountability, and creates an unnameable hostility. Where did this comment come from? How many more people are making these comments but not writing them?

Will I arrive on campus one day to find the one symbol of our Indigenous and Native Studies presence vandalized? Desecrated? The fear of this sends the hostile message that we should just go away.

So here are my three lines free:
We're still here.
We won't go away.
And we're not laughing.

Madeline Whetung
NATIVE STUDIES II

Funds for the Palestine Solidarity Network serve the public interest

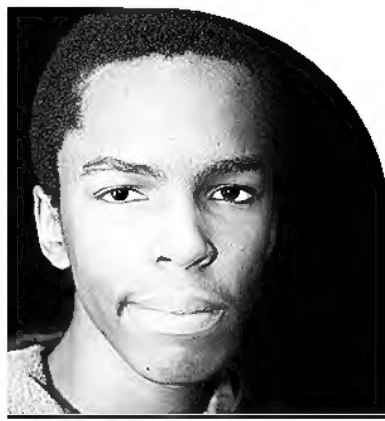
There have been some questions brought up lately about the work that the Alberta Public Interest Research Group does on campus. We felt we should address these questions and help students understand the work that we do.

The board of APIRG is a group of student volunteers democratically elected by the undergraduate community. Each year we deliver programming on campus, support working groups and student events with financial and in-kind resources, and collaborate with other nonprofit groups on projects that support our mandate. We are dedicated to supporting research, education, advocacy and action in the public interest. We help enable students to become active members of society, and seek to make public discourse richer and more varied. The working groups and projects we support reflect a broad range of student interests, such as the Edmonton Organic Growers Guild, Engineers Without Borders, Indigenous Sovereignty Week, and Future Librarians for Intellectual Freedom to name a few. As the Board of APIRG, we are informed about the groups and projects we fund, and support the work they do.

There has been specific attention in *The Gateway* as of late to Palestine Solidarity Network, an APIRG Working Group. We understand that



Museum screw-up shows lack of political communication



Kenan Kigunda
OPINION WRITER

It sure didn't look good for Rona Ambrose, Edmonton Spruce Grove MP, when the province announced in late October the federal government had reneged on its commitment to help fund the new Royal Alberta Museum with \$92 million. But then it came out that there had never been a written agreement between Ottawa and the province, and that provincial officials had instead relied on verbal confirmation they'd received after submitting some application or another to the Building Canada Fund. So it was the province's fault — because everyone knows never to trust what a politician merely says.

Then Ambrose stunned everybody when she revealed what she felt to be the solution to the whole fiasco last week. Believing that both the province and the city had agreed that the downtown museum, and not the LRT expansion, was Edmonton's top infrastructure priority, Ambrose assured everybody that the problem could easily be solved by taking funds previously

destined for new LRT lines and using them to plug the museum funding gap. Mayor Mandel was not amused, and neither was I: as one of the thousands of university students who take the trains daily, I've been waiting long enough for the rolling tons of steel to come to my Mill Woods backyard, thank you very much.

Mandel and I were not the only ones, because the rapid backlash to her so-called solution forced her to clarify her position. The museum project, she said, was merely the *current* priority, as the city wasn't ready to break ground on new LRT lines anyway. Like everything else in the debacle, her statement has only served to further muddy the waters, since she reiterated that Ottawa will remember its contribution to the new museum when the time does come to bankroll the LRT.

So now nobody knows where the museum project stands or whether it will jeopardize the LRT. Either way, we were given a possible clue to the misunderstanding that caused Rona Ambrose to think we had all forgotten about the LRT when a spokesman at the provincial Ministry of Infrastructure said that yes, indeed, the museum was their top priority, but — and this is the key fact that must have escaped Ambrose's notice — only because the department has nothing

to do with Edmonton's LRT development in the first place.

But that doesn't explain why the issue blew up at the end of October, as we had the appearance that all funding issues for the RAM had been worked out. The province had already held a contracting competition and chose the winning design for the new museum — which is pretty much universally hated.

But the blame for horrible designs that came out of the competition lies squarely with the requirements the province laid out when commissioning them: contractors would assume the burden of any cost overruns, rather than the province, and architects had only a few short months to submit their drawings.

It's looking bad for somebody, alright, but it's not just Rona Ambrose. It's the whole pack of them. The different levels of government seem unable to understand both each other and the desire for a museum that's more than just functional, to the point that we should just scrap the whole thing and try again later. Oh, wait. We've already done that, and by now it's clear that we'll get nowhere until we reach the level of minimum competence. Consider this an open letter to our representatives, then. Fix this mess and get your communications together.

Power slips from Wheat Board to the farmers



Josh Schmaltz
OPINION WRITER

So, what's all this madness about the Canadian Wheat Board? Should I care about it? Is this the government overstepping its bounds? No, not really.

Some are arguing that shutting it down will doom poor hard-working farmers. But in reality, farmers stand to gain a lot more without the board. The whole issue boils down to a few people getting whiny because they aren't getting their way — which doesn't make it different than any other issue currently in the public eye.

The Canadian Wheat Board was created in 1935 to serve as a mandatory middleman for farmers selling their wheat and barley. The idea was that by letting the CWB do the negotiating, all farmers would get higher prices for their crops. The CWB does this for farmers in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and part of British Columbia.

Bringing back the single marketing desk — after the original arrangement was dismantled in 1920 — was intended to keep things stable. The CWB worked well through the Second World War, but grain prices continued to fluctuate wildly into the 1990s.

The question now is whether the CWB actually gets farmers a better price on their crops. The board may negotiate higher prices, but they take a cut for themselves to run their operations. There's the risk that any price advantage created for farmers by the CWB is lost when the board takes their share of the profits. If increased revenue is all lost through increased overhead costs, then there's no point in doing it — that's the reason the Conservative government is using to dismantle the board.

There is a lot of fear-mongering being spread by CWB supporters. The "Stop the Steamroller" campaign

claims that farmers will be driven out of business and lose everything by being forced to compete with American companies. However, most farmers are already competing on the market. Crops like canola, chickpeas, and flax aren't controlled by the CWB. Farmers grow these crops and still make money. The chaos of the open market hasn't destroyed their livelihoods and prices for oilseed crops (canola) and pulse crops (chickpeas) have generally been stable. Many farmers prefer these crops because they can make more money growing them compared to the CWB-controlled crops. Letting them decide how their own wheat and barley is sold on world markets is the next logical step. The only real loser in this change is the wheat board itself. Yes, some businessmen who work for the CWB are going to need to find new jobs as fewer farmers choose to sell their crops through the board.

And don't be swayed by the recently publicized plebiscite that suggests 61 per cent of farmers support maintaining the CWB single marketing desk system. The CWB themselves carried out that poll, and they only asked farmers who have recently grown wheat or barley — and the total turnout was only about 60 per cent. If I were a farmer who didn't like the CWB, I certainly wouldn't waste my time mailing in a ballot telling the board that I didn't like them. Additionally if I don't like the CWB, I'm not growing wheat or barley, so I didn't get to vote in the referendum. The poll is dubious, at best.

With a Conservative majority government in place, it is only a matter of time before the CWB loses its control of the wheat and barley markets. No poll, lawsuit or silly television commercial is going to change the positive change switching to an open market system will bring. Farmers will be able to take full control of the sale of all of their crops, and those who work hard are going to benefit. There is no need for pesky middlemen who sap profits.

The battle over proper Christmas celebration begins now

It's never too early to spread that Christmas cheer around



Alana Willerton
POINT

Once again, the time has come to throw away our pumpkins and Halloween candy in favour of a Christmas tree and candy canes. So what if it's only November and Christmas is nearly two months off — when it comes to celebrating Christmas, there are no time constraints.

Not everyone agrees with the idea that Christmas celebrations can begin as early as November. Perhaps they didn't receive enough love as child, or maybe a lump of coal appeared in their Christmas stocking once too often.

Whatever the case may be, the Grinchs and Scrooges of this world have to accept that the phenomenon known as the November Christmas is here to stay. The thing about Christmas they must not understand is that you can't suddenly be dunked into the holiday spirit a week before the actual day; this is a gradual, delicate process that must be eased into.

The first clear sign of a November Christmas starts at Starbucks where they roll out Christmas coffee drinks right after Halloween, followed by a sudden flourishing of poinsettia arrangements.

Next, you'll catch Christmas jingles subtly mixed into the background while grocery shopping, and before you know it, long lines of children will be snaking through malls as they

wait in line to catch a glimpse of the hallowed Santa Claus.

There's absolutely nothing wrong with this happening in the first week of November. After all, Christmas is one of the best times of the year, so getting a head start on celebrating just makes sense. Plus, you may have noticed a distinct lack of festive holidays between the time of Halloween and Christmas. As unfortunate as that is, it was obviously an intentional decision made to allow for maximum preparation for Christmas.

■ I've been known to bust a move to a Christmas carol or two in the middle of April and we all survived that just fine.

If we're really being nitpicky though, Christmas doesn't even have to start in November. I've been known to bust a move to a Christmas carol or two in the middle of April and we all survived that just fine. You can't tell me that a rousing rendition of "Jingle Bell Rock" doesn't plant you exactly in the middle of the Christmas spirit, no matter what month of the year it is.

Whether your idea of getting into the spirit involves polishing off a package of candy canes or decking out your house in Christmas lights in middle of November, sooner or later you'll fall for it: the inevitable, wonderful thing that is Christmas. So instead of fighting it, embrace the craziness that is Christmas in November, because there truly is no line in the sand when it comes to this holiday.

I need time to recuperate — keep Chistmas in December



Darcy Ropchan
COUNTERPOINT

If you're like me, you've just woken up from the diabetic coma you were in after ingesting bountiful portions of Halloween candy.

I don't know about you, but I need a little time to recover. But I'm denied that soulful, solitary time to deal because on Nov. 1 the Halloween stuff goes away and the Christmas decorations come up.

Christmas is a bittersweet time for me. Receiving presents and money from relatives is great. It's the visiting of the relatives and having to talk to them that I don't like so much. Combine that with the long lines and insanity-inducing Christmas songs at the mall and you've got one perfect shit storm.

As I'm sure all university students can agree, November is probably the most stressful time of the semester. The tidal wave of papers coming down on us makes October's midterm season look like a vacation. The last thing I need is to have the added stress of Christmas on my mind.

Deciding what I have to buy for my family and friends is one of the most stressful parts of the holiday season. I make a list and I check it twice. I'm going to find out who's been naughty and who's pissed me off this past year. I need time to compile this list and go over it, and I can't deal

with the pressure of starting in November.

The worst part about Christmas is the stupid songs that get played over and over again. I know they're supposed to spread cheer and merriment but they just make my blood boil. November is not the time to have to put up with this shit. The lyrics are always about how great Christmas is or how much fun it is to spend time with family or something stupid like that. And the songs always get stuck in my head, turning my life into a living hell. Keep this crap in December.

During the Christmas season, going to the mall becomes a test of your sanity. Fighting the massive crowds, pushing through the hordes of bratty, screaming children and having to interact with a bunch of dipshit store employees who don't know anything about anything puts me through enough stress to give me a heart attack. Having to put up with this in December is bad enough, but when Christmas comes early in November it adds a whole other month of Christmas spirit for me to deal with. I can't take it.

People expect you to be nice and cheerful during the holiday season. I don't do nice. It's a hardcore endurance test for me to be nice towards others in December when I know people are watching and there are presents at stake, but having to do that in November as well? I don't think so. I can only be nice for so long before it drains all my energy. Make me start now and I'll be all tapped out by Dec. 6.

Although there are many pros and cons about Christmas, I'm sure one thing we can all agree on is that we don't need it yet. Leave it in December where it belongs.

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Childish Liberal walkout won't help their image



Ryan Bromsgrove
OPINION EDITOR

Acting like spoiled children probably isn't the best way to haul your damaged party out of third place. But the Liberals went ahead and solidified their irrelevance by walking out of a vote to approve the appointment of a unilingual auditor general last week. Yes, the Conservative majority already ensures that it'll get its way regardless of the rest of Parliament, but the other parties owe it to their own constituents to show up and at least pretend to contribute.

It's true that the government ignored its own guidelines when they chose Michael Ferguson to take the position, effective Nov. 28. In a note to Stephen Harper, interim Liberal leader Bob Rae noted, "in your letter you did not indicate that the candidate did not meet the government's own written

requirement that the successful applicant must have command of both of Canada's two official languages. The government broke its own criteria."

Well, it's the government's criteria to break. If Ferguson's potential for carrying out the duties of the position outweigh the difficulty that his lack of French could cause, then it's the government's call on whether or not to waive that requirement. Expecting anyone who holds public office in a country with two official languages to be bilingual is a nice idea. But frankly, selecting a unilingual applicant shows a praiseworthy adherence to practicality over idealism. Assuming Ferguson is the best choice for auditor general, he deserves to hold the position and we'll all be better off for it.

Besides all that, Ferguson has indicated that he's willing to learn French, and aims to be proficient in a year. So we could have the best candidate at a slight handicap for one of his 10 years in the position, or we could choose a second-place candidate for the entire term.

Unless the job demands that he

actively communicate one-on-one with unilingual French Canadians, the only reason to demand bilingualism is pandering to a minority at the expense of alienating the rest of us — which is something we'll probably see a lot more of from the Liberals during their already embarrassing experience of being the third party. Meanwhile, the NDP stuck around because, as their official languages critic Yvon Godin said in the *Montreal Gazette*, "I want to make sure Canadians know which way we vote."

What we should be concerned about isn't that they selected a unilingual candidate, but given that the language requirement isn't actually a requirement, there may well be better-qualified people out there who assumed not knowing both languages was a deal-breaker. But no, Rae made sure that wasn't an option by also calling for starting a "new process to find a qualified, bilingual candidate." By sticking with the bilingual angle, the Liberals will make no new allies, and the walkout only cements their status as Canada's new whiny third party.

Long gun registry should be closed



Nick Ong
OPINION STAFF

In a long-awaited move, the Conservative party has finally passed a controversial bill to end Canada's long gun registry. This move is going to save money in the long run and protect innocent gun owners, at little to no cost in terms of crime.

Without needing to maintain the registry — a program that has already swallowed up to \$2 billion — we'll save up to \$4 million per year.

This money could be better used to fund crime prevention, tackling the problem at its source rather than targeting its tools. Further, gun owners will no longer face legal action for having unregistered long guns, which improves on individual freedom and privacy.

Sure, to some, this seems like a bad idea. Advocates for the bill say without any regulation people would be free to walk down the street, shotguns akimbo. Canada would fall into chaos.

But the registry is not the only, or even the most critical method of gun regulation. Prospective gun owners still need to obtain a firearm Possession and Acquisition Licence, and getting one requires extensive background checks. The PAL system contains a record of all people who legally own guns as it is. The only thing that the long gun registry did was keep a record of the owners of common sporting rifles and shotguns, neither of which are restricted in the first place.

Some opponents of the bill point at how long-gun related crimes have been reduced by 74 per cent since the introduction of the registry. They claim it fulfilled the original purpose of reducing the likelihood of events like the Ecole Polytechnique massacre that sparked its creation. But crime is down in general across Canada, and

it's far from clear the long gun registry has helped. It's more likely that long-gun related crimes have simply decreased as a part of that trend.

According to Statistics Canada, when it comes to homicide, known registered firearms are used only in a few cases. More often, the status of the gun is unknown. If it's that easy to get around the registry, then it's impotent.

And knowing which gun killed a person is significantly less important than knowing who pulled the trigger — there's no guarantee that the person a gun is registered to is responsible for the crime. At best the registry catches those stupid enough to use their registered gun, but that person would either have to confess or leave other identifying evidence at the scene anyhow.

Scrapping the registry will save money and cease criminalizing innocent gun owners. With forensic techniques and the PAL, we should be more than able to replace the registry.

councilwatch

University students as a whole are not stupid. But at the SU council session of Oct. 25, some councillors assumed that U of A students are impressionable enough to be swayed to vote for a particular candidate just because the candidate says to do it.

In a debate that rambled on for about an hour, councillors argued over whether to allow candidates in the SU Executive, Students' Council and General Faculties Council races to campaign on voting days. First suggested earlier in the year in a presentation by the Elections Review Committee, it was narrowly sent back for review in an 11 to 10 vote.

The common point of contention against the bill was that if a candidate simply tells students that the election is that day and they should all vote for him, then they'll do just that even without thinking, somehow skewing the election. But it's not the students who are so naïve — it's the assumption itself.

Telling students to "vote for me" without giving a good reason or showing any charisma or leadership won't be as successful as these dissenters assume. Students won't be swayed to vote a certain way just because they're given a reminder to vote by a particular person. If anything, some will be annoyed and vote against that candidate if that's all they've got. But at least they'll vote.

What campaigning on election day would do is raise sorely-needed awareness. After all, while students

aren't dumb, they are busy and can forget about student elections when they have classes to worry about and the only people getting the word out are with the Chief Returning Officer. Reminding them when they can actually vote and how easy it is will, at least in a small way, increase voter turnout.

And that increased turnout won't necessarily favour aggressive campaigners. The quality of the platform is what matters — the best candidates would quickly inform students and give them a reason to vote. On the other hand, the worst would only act as an annoyance that students are bound to ignore. And the aggressive campaigners are going to be just as aggressive during the current campaign period. Campaigning on the day of the election wouldn't sway voters any more than the previous election materials would already have.

There were many councillors who, to their credit, pointed out it's wrong to assume the voting base is that gullible. The motion was returned to the ERC by only one vote, after all. But that more of them thought students could be impressionable enough to give an uninformed vote to the first candidate who asks is ridiculous. It's a sign of a bigger problem with our representatives if they think that all they have to do to get votes is tell students, "there's an election today, vote for me." It shows a council that assumes students are not capable of thinking for themselves, which may explain why council consistently struggles to connect with them during elections.

A good platform and a solid, interesting campaign is what gets votes. Any candidate who can't do that is likely to fail regardless of how much time they have — due to their own lack of intelligence, not the students'.



ASS OF THE WEEK?

Art restorers have claimed to have found the image of the devil in the clouds of a painting by 13th century artist, Giotto. Artistic genius, or an ass 700 years in the making?

gateway
opinion

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DOGS OF THE WORLD

November 7 - 11

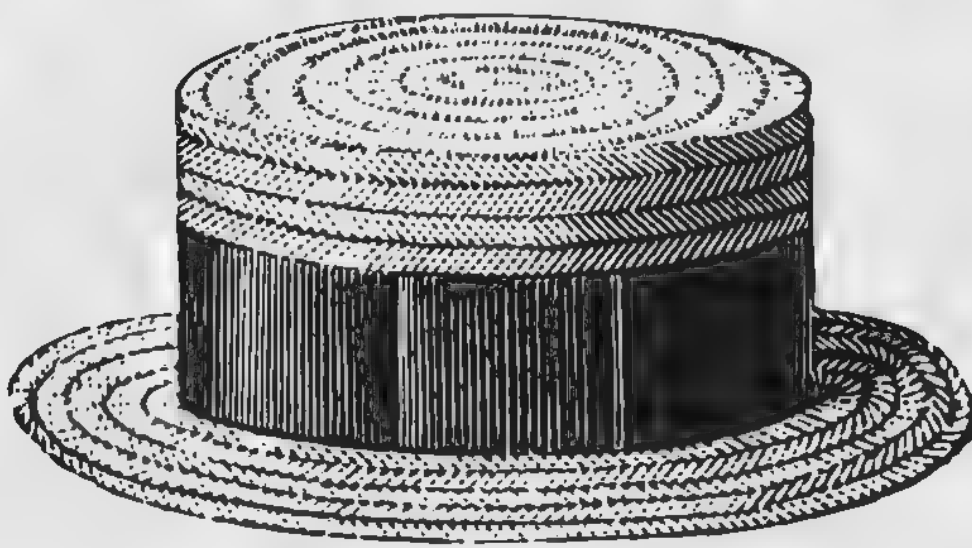
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Skating scourge almost over



Ryan Stephens
OPINION WRITER

Winter is coming. These words throw chills down the collective spine of students everywhere this time of year, with a good chunk of our days spent trekking between classes when the pedways fail us. But while no one likes trudging through two feet of snow, we'll be able to breathe easier with the tiresome cold when the annoying assholes blasting through campus on their skateboards and longboards are gone.

I used to think that Alberta drivers were the most terrifying menace of the outdoors. No, it's the skaters. And now that autumn is coming to a close, hippies everywhere are fighting to get as much boarding time as they can. It's only a couple more weeks until they give it up completely, but in this remaining period they're my collective worst enemy.

To illustrate why I take this bitter feud so seriously, take this episode last week. After a tiring and studious day, I had to make the inevitable journey through campus to reach the transit station and catch my bus home. I turned on my iPod to listen to my favourite Top 40s hit to make the journey that much more enjoyable. The first half of the walk was great.

And then it happened. I turned a corner, and just as the bass was about to drop in the latest Usher track, I found myself face to face with a figure going so fast that for a second I was convinced it



WATCH IT, BUDDY Only a few more weeks of skater dodging. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: DAN MCKECHNIE

was a demon from the underworld. Usually I'm forced to dive out of the way while he burns past me at mach speed, laughing nervously as I cower in shame from the horrifying near-death experience.

But this time I got lucky. I hadn't been paying attention, so the situation became an accidental game of chicken, and he had no choice but to bail.

This battle was squarely in my favour, but it's a small victory in the war between walkers and skaters. It's not the act of skateboarding that I hate. I appreciate them for choosing to skateboard to school rather than drive — save the environment and all that. But when they reach the higher-traffic areas of campus like Quad, they need to show some courtesy and dismount.

Nothing is scarier than walking from SUB to the LRT station while dodging a barrage of skateboarders — just when you think you've made

it, one last asshole comes out of nowhere and flattens you. This isn't Frogger, guys. If I wanted to dodge vehicles I'd run down the bus loop.

Sure, maybe I shouldn't be walking around wearing headphones, effectively impairing all audible awareness of my surroundings. But allow me to deflect by noting that the existence of the worst kind of wheeled maniacs: the skateboarders cruising throughout campus while blasting music directly into their ears. They dial this shit up to 11 when 10 was already too far.

But as I said, only a few more weeks remain. So fellow walkers, let us rejoice that soon snow and ice will blanket the ground.

We'll slide three feet across the ice and fall head first into a five-foot-high snowbank at least once or twice, but we won't have to worry about all the damned skateboarders for a few months.

#3LF three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

I LOVE THREE LINES FREE

#coolstorybro

Boy in 9am CMPUT 114, I'm usually in the back row, you're just not looking!

Sex with trees is very good. And though this fetish is not understood it gives new meaning to 'getting wood'

chemistry, i withdraw from you.

Dear Chemistry,

Get bent.

Love, everyone.

To be, or not to be

I think I will be a grape

Grapes are chill

Can I get a beep beep?

Let me hear that toot toot

Lip hickey

We got fellas to my left, hunnies

on my right, we bring 'em both

together we got drinkin' all night.

First A in two years of university!

Time to get drunk!

To the guy(s) in EE class, use google

& learn a few phrases of sign language. She will love it.

Men in shorts in November? I love

Canada!

Pokemon had the best game

Yugioh had the best cards

Digimon had the best show

ETS: Hurry up and fix the escalators! There's always one broken =C

So why doesn't SUBmart take

ONEcard? That's BS.

I just signed up to donate bone

marrow, coz that's what NDPers do

Alana is my BEST BUD!

Slightly bearded male seeking

nerdy ginger

All of the gateway staff and volunteers combined cannot grow a collective moustache greater than that of VP Cheemoustachio!

To find men in suits go to the business building. Best dressed on campus.

Cream cheese is the best food. If you care to dispute this, fight me.

Can my life fit in

a haiku? I hope not that

Would be really sad.

Girls who sit in the back of the Vampire class lecture, shut the fuck up! You might, like, learn something.

Need to get a Mec Engg chic who wants to go to the computer lab and do some mating with my Solidworks.

"Id and Ego" makes my life! It's so cute! When I flip to the comics and don't see it, I die a little inside.

I like that res went out of their way to prevent people coming into contact with other peoples biological crap but I still get hairs in my food everytime I eat at the caf.

why?

To the guy who leant me his calculator so I could write my EngG 130 exam. THANK YOU! I don't know how well or poorly I did, but I know it would've been way worse if you hadn't helped me out!

no u

The Gateway reserves the right to edit any submissions, as well as refuse publication of submission it deems racist, sexist, hateful, libellous or overtly offensive.

3 LINES FREE contest winners!

Thanks to all those who submitted 3LFs for the contest!

We'll be contacting the lucky winners this week!

The Gateway also wishes to thank the sponsors of our contest:

Marmot Basin • Hudson's • Bulk Barn

Check out the Opinion section in this week's paper to see the best of the entries! And keep submitting to 3LF! (even though there are no more prizes to be won, we still wanna hear it)

*winners were randomly selected

Seven billionth baby not something to celebrate



Darcy Ropchan
OPINION STAFF

Earlier this week several countries tried to lay claim to the seven billionth person on this Earth, each claiming it was their country that owned the honour. There's no real way to know, and far from being a joyous time, this speaks to the coming problem of overpopulation.

You've probably seen the creepy photos of Vladimir Putin cuddling what he believes to be the world's seven billionth person. The Philippines lay claim that one of their newborns was the world's official seven billionth human. Britain, Sri Lanka and India are also trying to claim this accomplishment as their own. What these countries are ignoring is that it's nearly impossible to lay claim to who is the seven billionth baby.

The United Nations estimates there are approximately 490,000 babies born every day — that's 340 every minute. Using the UN's statistics on the mortality rate, 160,000 people die every day, or 111 deaths per minute. Not only is the interplay of these statistics complicated and shows a world population growing out of control, but they're only estimates.

The seven billionth human could have been born a while ago and we didn't even know about it, or it could happen in a few years. But in the spirit of competition, various countries are lining up to claim that they



BABY BOOM Global population is out of control, no matter how cute babies are. SUPPLIED

were the ones to reach this meaningless, inane goal.

I understand that babies are cute, and it may seem fun to claim that your country is responsible for getting us to this milestone. But if people took more than three seconds to think about it, they'd realize it's worthless to claim that the seven billionth person came from your country. It's a stupid made-up race that means nothing.

And even if was possible to claim that your country was responsible for producing the seven billionth mouth to feed, that's hardly anything to be proud of. Congratulations, the world's resources will be consumed a little faster now. More food is needed, putting more pressure on countries to supply it which leads to economic stress — not to mention the healthcare strain. Many children are born into poverty or into the care of unfit parents, but babies

are cute and wonderful so I guess that makes everything alright. This is something we'll all have to deal with, whether our country has the seven billionth person or not. The world is not going in a sustainable direction. But these pressing issues aren't on people's minds while we compete to claim the seven billionth baby, but you can be sure they'll be a problem in the near future.

We should stop trying to revel in this meaningless accomplishment and focus on the gravity of the situation. It's foolish to think that people would stop having children, but we need to re-examine our priorities and not consider seven billion people to be a great accomplishment.

Instead of celebrating the fact that there's another person in this world we should see it as a warning sign and start discussing what we're going to about the increasingly expanding population.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

it is possible for some students to potentially be unfamiliar with, or even disagree about their position. In serving the public interest, and in our commitment to the student community, we recognize the importance of presenting issues from a perspective that is not easily found within the majority and that may go against the status quo.

This widens public discourse and offers students an opportunity to engage with issues in a way that values asking questions and thinking critically. Some projects and groups affiliated with APIRG are certainly more contentious than others, but they all serve an important role in engaging the student community.

APIRG Board of Directors
2011/2012

FROM THE WEB

Arts funding cuts show acceptable decline at the university

(Re: "Arts faculty looks to cut \$1.5 million from budget," by April Hudson, Nov. 7)

When I saw this article on the front page of *The Gateway*, I honestly had to stop and let it sink in. I am an Arts Faculty student, so this news is exceptionally frustrating.

First, the disproportionate amount of money that the Arts Faculty has to cut versus other faculties is almost criminal.

We get less money, raise less money, yet are expected to cut the same 2.1 percent. Premier Redford, can give out 100 million dollars to school boards, but our fair Arts Faculty has to cut 1.5 million dollars whilst at the

same time worry about total educational destitution.

Shame on Redford and Minister Weadick for their quick fix politico promises.

Next, President Samarasekera, we all know the usual 'speech' about provincial funding and how hard it is for you to get it. You must either be obliged to stop making cuts to the Arts or watch as the quality of an Arts education slips to less than standard.

Excuse me if this is, perhaps, rash, but maybe you and Dean Cormack should make a visit to Premier Redford's office.

And excuse me again, if I suggest you dispense with the usual pleasantries. This isn't about wining and dining a government official.

This is about the decline of a university. If we make cuts, every year, eventually every faculty will feel it. Whilst Arts sits in shambles, which it undoubtedly will, the other faculties should look on with great caution.

"Dillon"
VIA INTERNET

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please). They can also be dropped off in person or sent via paper airplane to to SUB 3-04. But no semaphore, please, as we lack the technology.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters should be 350 words at most, and include the author's name, program, year of study, and student identification number to be considered for publication.






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How we Learn

Written by Stephen Cook and Scott Fenwick
Illustrations by Lauren Alston and Ross Vincent

Once in a while, it can be tempting to skip class, work on other things during lectures or rely on 10 cups of espresso to pull all-night cram sessions before an exam. Although you may want to defer reading-up on your lectures until the last minute, you probably aren't doing your brain any favours. Learning everything that your prof went over in class may be more difficult than you may think.

Processing and retaining material from class is an important part of the student experience. And for many students, they're supposed to carry their knowledge into the real world and keep it with them for their working lives. But for some, the development of good learning habits only comes after bombing an exam.

All problems in learning can boil-down to two issues: either not storing information properly in your brain or not being able to retrieve the information you studied in time for an exam. Problems in retrieval are usually related to being overly-stressed, and learning how to relax can help. However, issues in storing information usually stem from bad study habits, which can be from juggling multiple priorities. It can lead to studying in less-than-ideal circumstances: on a packed bus, in-between shifts at work or late into the night.

All of these factors makes it less and less likely the information you study will make it into your long-term memory, let alone the short-term. In most cases, this accumulates into the problem of simply memorizing multiple concepts, as opposed to understanding its

nuances, relevance and applications — something critical in university-level exams. And it takes more time and effort to understand how a concept works in-context, compared to simply memorizing it.

"Most of what you should be doing in university shouldn't involve a great deal of memorization," says Thomas Spalding, Acting Chair of the University of Alberta psychology department. He says that in most cases, only the most basic of facts need to be memorized. He points to the need to memorize the symbols of chemicals from the periodic table, but not chemical reactions themselves.

"It's going to involve memory, but not necessarily memorization. So one of the things that people need to be aware of is that those are two really different kinds of things. Memorization is usually taken to mean that you're just matching up a symbol with a word. The other stuff is much more about learning to understand how these things are related to each other. That's not really about memorization. That's really about building a structure of knowledge that you can now fit new pieces into. So for example, once you understand something about how chemical reactions in general proceed, then you can learn about a new kind of chemical reaction."

How the brain stores information is so complex that advances in related research have only moved forward since about the 1960s. Before then, the brain was a puzzling phenomenon. Ironically, although self-help books were written for improving memory nearly a century ago, researchers were still decades away from understanding the actual biological processes involved.

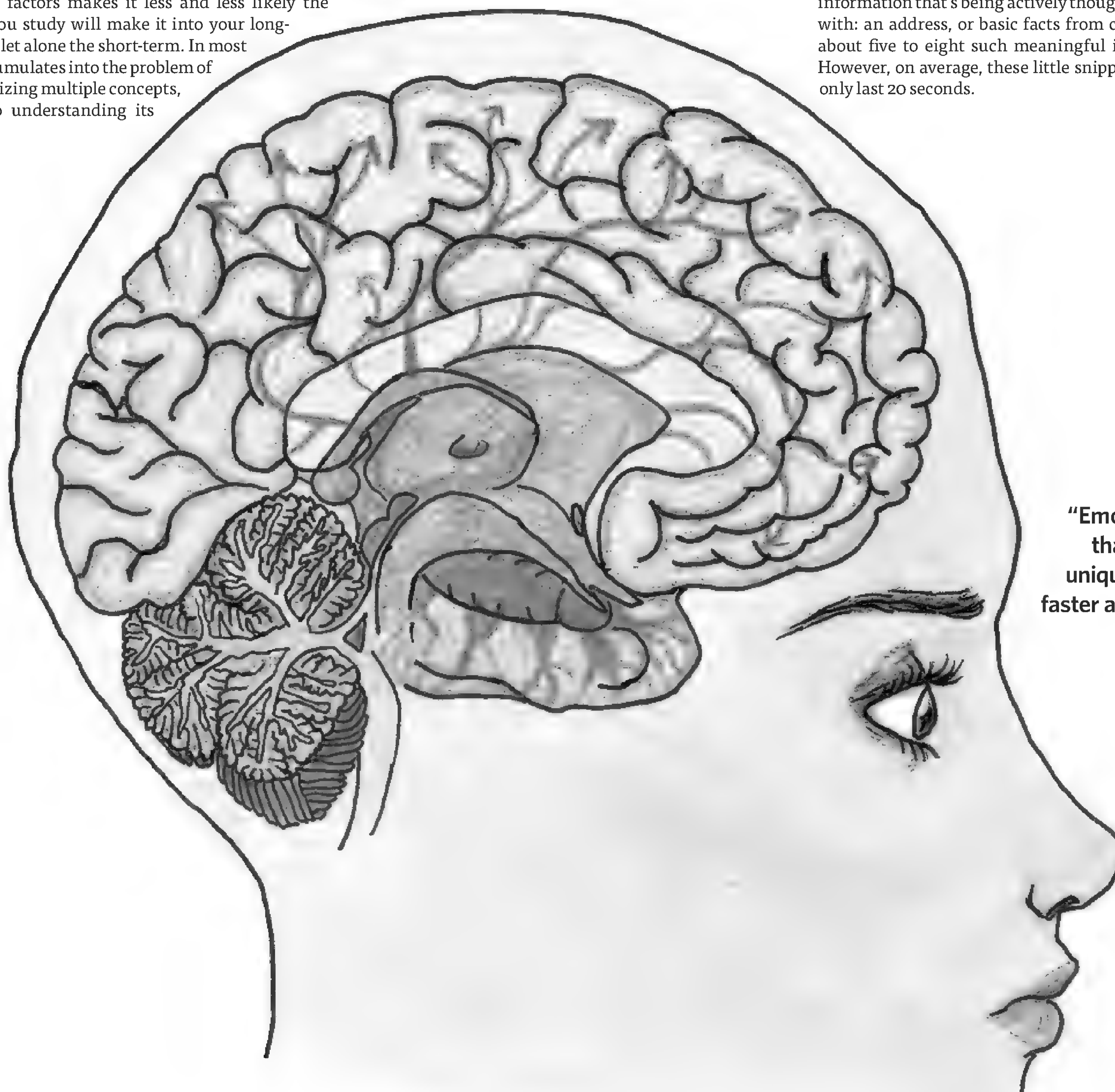
Psychologists attempted to find a single, localized centre of memory, but failed to find one. Today, it's understood that memory processing is more complicated than being centered in a single space and scientists have learned more things about memory in the last 10 years than the previous 100.

"There are several parts of the brain involved in memory formation and memory storage," explains Peter Nguyen, a U of A physiology professor, who studies the brain at the cellular level. "The important fact that you need to remember is that memory is not a unitary phenomena. It's a multi-faceted process that involves multiple brain structures."

The part of the brain most responsible for memory is the seahorse-shaped hippocampus. Buried deep in the middle of the brain, it's responsible for the memory of general facts. Other parts of the brain that help in memory are located slightly above the hippocampus, in parts of the frontal lobe and attached to the brain stem in the rear. Collectively, they're responsible for procedure and motor tasks, like learning how to ride a bike or playing the piano.

However, even with all of the brain's parts working together, it's still not capable of soaking up facts like a sponge and making you a genius. Instead, there's a whole process of solidifying new-found knowledge into ideas that you can recall, and that involves short-term to long-term translation.

The first stop for information coming into your brain is your short-term memory. This temporarily holds the information that's being actively thought about or worked with: an address, or basic facts from class. You can hold about five to eight such meaningful items at any time. However, on average, these little snippets of information only last 20 seconds.



"Emotional stimuli tend to be remembered faster and remembered much longer than neutral stimuli. The distinctive experiences tend to be remembered faster and remembered much longer than neutral stimuli." — Daniel Kahneman

Psychology

To keep them in your short-term memory, you can do what's called maintenance rehearsal: repeating information over and over in your head to keep it in the short-term. It's the same idea as reviewing your class notes right after you're done the lecture. But transforming those small short-term bits into something more lasting is the key to better learning.

Nguyen says the hippocampus is critical for making new long-term memories of people, places or things, translating memories from the short-term to the long-term. Once memories are stored long-term, it has the potential to last a lifetime.

"It is involved in the conversion of newly-learned information into a consolidated long-term form that's more resilient to disruption," he explains, adding that memories become consolidated and saved in parts of the brain just outside of the hippocampus.

In order for short-term memories to become long-term memories, Spalding emphasises making as many connections as possible between the concepts being learned, fitting it in together with things previously learned.

"One thing you want to do is you want to integrate your knowledge of 'what' with your knowledge of 'how.' As it turns out, there seems to be two different kinds of memory systems, broadly speaking. One that's called semantic — it's knowing 'what.' The other is procedural, and that's knowing how to do things. Those two systems need to work together, but they often work on really different principles."

"Memory is not a unitary phenomena. It's a multi-faceted process that involves multiple brain structures."

Peter Nguyen
Physiology Professor, U of A

Spalding also suggests taking the time to think deeply about the concepts being studied, as it helps form those connections. Although it's possible to memorize a concept in time for an exam, being able to link short-term and long-term memory increases the ability to process concepts on a deeper level.

"If you really want to learn something long-term, what you have to learn are the principles that organize whatever the topic area is," he says. "Humans are not very good at just remembering unconnected stuff. What we are pretty good at is remembering fundamental principles about things, and if you can remember fundamental principles, in most cases, that will keep you on the right track. You may not be exactly right about stuff, but it will keep you on the right track for things. And that's really a fundamental thing for long-term learning."

But getting information in the first place can be a challenge. Students aren't strangers to distraction. As soon as midterm or final exam season rolls around, it becomes tempting to come to class, but not pay attention to the professor — or worse, not even bother going in the first place. Every class filled with daydreaming or a lack of note-taking are missed opportunities to get class material straight in your head. Your brain needs every chance it can get to repeat and rehearse its newly-found information. Otherwise, you'll risk mixing-up one concept with another.

"Failure to encode from short-term to long-term often occurs because we are mentally distracted," says Nguyen. "So if you learn something new and something in your environment distracts you, you don't really make a conscious effort to rehearse the material mentally in order to put it into long-term memory."

This is also why last-minute cram sessions rarely help, given that several problems are acting against the brain. If the most intensive studying is done at the last minute, there's only so much the brain can translate into long-term memory in time for an exam without any rest. Chances are also that cramming only allows for the reading of notes and textbooks only once, and thus run the risk of memorizing facts without gaining a deeper understanding about it. There's rarely any time for self-testing or linking material together to discover its relevance — something critical for

long-term memory.

"Often the approach that students take is cramming," says U of A psychology professor Norman Brown. "Even if you're going to cram, the trick is to understand — to understand what the concepts are and see if you can put concepts into relationship with one another. Build these higher order knowledge structures. That's the way to learn. Memorization is secondary; it comes as a consequence of knowing and understanding."

Cram sessions — especially of the late night kind, are usually driven by caffeine. It can help, but caffeine can be too much of a good thing. Spalding explains that the level of caffeine-induced arousal would look like an inverted "U" curve on a graph.

Coffee and energy drinks have the same effect on the body as stress: they act as a stimulant and increase the body's arousal. For example, worrying about an exam creates stress and can help focus attention. However, if you worried too much about an exam, performance would drop because you won't be able to learn or retrieve information. Similar to coffee, the increased mental arousal that it creates can increase the ability to focus. But drink too much of it, and you'll be as bad as someone who is so stressed that they couldn't eat.

"For most people, a little bit of caffeine raises performance. Start having a lot of caffeine, you peak and start to fall really pretty quickly. You start to get jittery, you start not being able to concentrate, and then your performance drops really quite dramatically. Same thing happens with stress. A little bit of stress raises your performance. A lot of stress brings your performance down," says Brown.

A lack of sleep also hurts the brain's ability to retrieve information, such as for exams. A study published in 2008 by St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y., showed that, on average, students who never pulled an all-nighter had an average GPA of 3.1. The typical GPA for those who usually stayed-up all night was 2.9. Similarly, a study published in 2000 found that people who are awake for 17 to 19 hours perform worse on driving tests than those with a blood alcohol content of 0.05 per cent, the legal limit in six Canadian provinces. Encoding memories into the brain is important, but it ultimately means nothing if it can't be used.

"An overt intention to store helps," says Brown. "Another thing that helps is elaboration, so in other words when you are thinking about something and you think about it in a rich and complicated way, that facilitates encoding."

And similar to caffeine, music has the potential to help aid in the elaboration, according to Spalding. Studying in noisy places without any music would decrease encoding ability; listening to music would typically cause the memory retention of the brain to fare better.

"The magnitude of that effect varies quite dramatically depending on the type of music that you're listening to," warns Spalding, explaining that it's harder to learn when listening to songs that have lyrics you understand, compared to all-instrumentals or songs with lyrics in a foreign language. This is because the brain isn't using all of its processing power for learning.

"(It) can cause quite a bit of trouble because if you're not really paying attention, the chance that you're going to encode it really well is just not great. It doesn't mean that it has to be absolutely silent ... but it does mean that you want to make sure that you don't have so much stuff going on that your attention is getting scattered around."

With all the time and effort needed to learn a concept, it also helps to think about whether you even find the material interesting in the first place. If it's not interesting, it may be all the harder to study. According to Brown, the level of mental arousal with what's being studied in something can be important in memory.

"Emotional stimuli tend to be encoded better than neutral stimuli," he says. "The distinctiveness of unique experience tend to be encoded better, faster and remembered much longer than mundane experiences."

Ultimately, learning happens because you want it to. Learning is done through setting aside the time to have a clear head, and going in-depth into the material. It's done through discussing ideas learned in class with friends after the lecture is over, and considering what it means in the big scheme of things. Whether it's to pass a course, or to move on with your degree, being able to learn in a course depends on whether you actually like it.

Study Tips

If you can't remember what you're studying well enough to get a grade higher than a D, you can try to help your brain out using these tips:

- Give meaning to what you're studying, and linking it to what you already know. There need to be connections or some sort of structure between everything learned, or else they're going to stay in short-term memory.
- Take good notes. Whether in class or when studying, this helps embed material in your memory.
- Do extra reading. The more thoroughly and deeper a subject is studied, the better it'll be remembered.
- Space learning out over time. Believe it or not, but one hour of continuous study will produce less learning than three 20 minute study sessions.
- Structure your life. There's a reason why the Students' Union gives out handbooks in September. Writing out all of the things you need to do takes the pressure off of your short-term memory.
- Review constantly. This helps re-enforce learning. Although most people pick up from where they left off after taking a break from studying, try reading a few paragraphs of what you read previously.
- Structuring breaks into your schedule, as well as sleeping, will help in information recall. And if you're nervous about forgetting something, you probably will.

Source: *A Collection of the Best Learning Strategies on Earth*, published by the University of Alberta Academic Support Centre.



encoded better
distinctiveness of
encoded better,
nger than mun-
e experiences."

Norman Brown
y Professor, U of A

Arts & Culture

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Volunteer

A&C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Alana Willerton**
TAKING OVER THE ARTS & CULTURE BREAK PAGE

Peter Katz

With The Barr Brothers
Friday, Nov. 11 at 8 p.m.
The Haven Social Club (15120A Stony Plain Rd.)
\$10 at yeglive.ca

Peter Katz is full of contradictions. Despite touring for years as a solo artist, his albums always feature a full band in favour of his onstage stripped down style. But thanks to his fans' persistence, Katz has at long last conceded to the inevitable, releasing a live album called *Live at the Music Gallery*, on which he's never sounded better. Playing more than 150 shows a year, Katz is bringing his sparse, simple arrangements and warm folk tones to Edmonton as he steps into the solo spotlight.

Stomp

Runs until Sunday, Nov. 13 at 8 p.m.
Jubilee Auditorium (11455-87 Ave.)
\$55.75 at ticketmaster.ca

Claiming to be a musician isn't the accomplishment that it used to be — almost every-one you meet nowadays will brag about being able to play an instrument. But there are exceptions to this rule: namely, the members of Stomp, a group of performers who use pretty much anything except conventional instruments to create fantastic rhythms. Their weapons of choice include everything from brooms and metal garbage cans to wooden poles and hubcaps. Somehow — and don't ask me how — they manage to create contagious rhythms that will definitely get your feet tapping with everything up to and possibly including the kitchen sink.

Blake Shelton

Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.
Rexall Place (7424-118 Ave.)
Starting at \$54 at ticketmaster.ca

Dig out that lasso and dust off those cowboy boots, because the Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) is galloping its way back into Edmonton. Besides all the usual fun that naturally accompany the country's most important rodeo event, this year will also feature country music superstar Blake Shelton, who's fresh off the release of a new album, *Red River Blue*, and still riding the wave of his fame from TV show *The Voice*. Take a break from the horses for a while to catch Shelton in action; after all, nothing says rodeo like a country music concert.

Will the Real Alberta Please Stand Up?

Directed by Geo Takach
Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.
Art Gallery of Alberta
(2 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
\$8.50 student admission

Lately, Alberta seems to be going through a bit of an identity crisis. Is our reputation nothing but a redneck province destroying the environment through the oilsands? It's hard to know just where we stand in the world's eyes nowadays, but *Will the Real Alberta Please Stand Up?* hopes to provide some answers. The documentary explores the uncertain personality of our province in an attempt to discover just how true the stereotypes are. Director Geo Takach will be in attendance at the screening to listen to comments and answer questions on what he's discovered during the making of his documentary.



SUPPLIED: IVAN OTIS

Sarah Slean gains creative confidence

MUSIC PREVIEW

Sarah Slean

WHEN Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.
WHERE Myer Horowitz Theatre (SUB)
HOW MUCH \$38 at ticketmaster.ca

Alana Willerton

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Even over the phone, Sarah Slean's lively, exuberant personality is impossible to contain. With joy radiating from her voice as she describes her new double album, *Land & Sea*, it's clear that Slean is satisfied with her latest project and the direction her music and life have taken.

But despite her current state of contentment, Slean can't help but reflect back on a time when her life wasn't so perfectly in order. Several years ago, Slean found herself philosophically lost in the world of music that she'd created, and in an attempt to rejuvenate herself, she sold her apartment and belongings to move into a small cabin in the forest. Slean describes the four long months she spent in the cabin as a sombre time where she seriously considered abandoning music altogether.

"When I went to that cabin or made all those other recordings, a lot of it was from pain," Slean explains. "A lot of it was from terrible, broken relationships and from feeling that 20-something crisis of not being able to extract meaning from the world. It's a very troubling thing to come up against — your whole world can fall apart. But at the same time it's very necessary, because then you go on this search. I think at last, I feel at the end of a search. I feel like this is a new chapter, that (my last album) *The Baroness* closed a very long book. And it was such a relief to finally not be raging against the world."

Slean has come a long ways since her dark days spent in that cabin, a journey she views

as a 10-year long battle to find herself. Today, she finds peace with her life and no longer feels like she has any arguments with her experiences.

This newfound sense of joy is a major theme in her latest recording, *Land & Sea*. The double album features what Slean describes as "two different families," both lyrically and musically. While *Land* is an upbeat celebration of life produced by Canadian singer-songwriter Joel Plaskett, *Sea* takes on a smoother, more solemn sound, enhanced by a 21-piece orchestra. While it may seem to be an odd combination of songs for a double album, Slean argues the two contrasting sounds actually complement each other, each drawing out and enriching the meaning of the other family of songs.

"There are two kinds of things that people create. We sometimes create things that take us away from life and give us a little vacation. Then there's the kind of stuff like a movie, a novel or hopefully a double album by a Canadian singer-songwriter, that aspire to take us further in life."

SARAH SLEAN

"The revelation that made the whole thing sew itself together for me was this: The *Sea* perspective is no better or purer than the *Land* perspective," explains Slean. "*Land* really celebrates this temporal, physical reality: the phenomena of you being a specific human being in 2011 on planet Earth, wherever you may be ... *Sea* was really gathering around this idea of unity and the oneness of all that is. It passed those veils, passed the sort of illusion of separateness, passed the individual self and objects in time

and into something eternal and infinite beyond space and time."

While Slean may feel strongly about both counterparts of *Land & Sea*, *Land* evokes Slean's new outlook on life is most clearly. A rousing, up-tempo collection of musical anthems, the album brings out her rediscovered joy in creating music and living life to the fullest. Completely different in every way from her past work, *Land* is the embodiment of everything that Slean has become since learning to accept her life.

"(*Land*) had this vivaciousness and internal kind of fire, and I love that because as I look back on my catalogue, there are slim pickings for the rousing, happy, optimistic and upbeat songs," Slean says. "Most of them are solemn and sad. I'm so glad that *Land* came out of me, because I truly feel like it's a mirror of how I've evolved personally and philosophically, and how my world view has changed."

Knowing full well how much her own perceptions have been altered through the creation of *Land & Sea*, Slean hopes the double album will have a similar transformational effect on everyone else who listens to it. With her own evolution as an artist and a person shining through every track, *Land & Sea* establishes Slean as an artist who is unwilling to settle with simply skimming the surface when it comes to her music.

"There are two kinds of things that people create," says Slean. "We sometimes create things that take us away from life and give us a little vacation. Then there's the kind of stuff like a movie, a novel or hopefully a double album by a Canadian singer-songwriter, that aspire to take us further into life. They aspire to have us not run away from life, but to actually lean further in to look closer at it and to experience it more deeply."

"That is my mission when making things: I don't want to make stuff that turns us away or distracts us. I want to make stuff that turns us to each other, stuff that turns us more in to ourselves, and stuff that turns us towards the shocking wonder of existence."

A high-stakes sibling showdown

THEATRE REVIEW

Cleopatra's Sister

WHEN | Runs until Saturday, Nov. 12 at 8 p.m., Sunday matinées at 2 p.m., no shows Sunday and Monday evenings

WHERE | TransAlta Arts Barns (10330 84 Ave.)

WRITTEN BY | Trevor Schmidt

DIRECTED BY | Trevor Schmidt

STARRING | Nadien Chu and Sylvia Wong

HOW MUCH | Starting at \$15 from tixonthesquare.ca

Alex Migdal

NEWS EDITOR • @ALEXEM

CLEOPATRA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It's when Cleopatra and Arsinoe snipe at each other with venomous remarks that the play reaches its stride. Actors Nadien Chu and Sylvia Wong play off each other delightfully, exchanging biting words about each other's figure and beauty. Their cattiness even erupts into a full-blown fight, with razor-shop daggers substituting for claws.

But while the wit runs high, the emotional resonance wavers. Cleopatra's legendary skills of seduction and persuasion fail to translate on the stage. Wong's Cleopatra is regal and beautiful, but lacks the authoritative presence to truly threaten her younger sister. The demure performance is further imbalanced by Chu's nuanced and emotionally-charged depiction of Arsinoe: While one sister remains emotionally invested, the other seems more transfixed by the stage props.

Understandably, there's much to admire about the set, which recreates the luxurious Temple of Artemis in simple and effective fashion. However, while Schmidt's

unconventional stage design is ingenious, it's ultimately flawed. The audience is made to sit on opposing sides of a room with the temple in the centre marking the stage. The temple is flanked on both sides of the stage by six columns holding chandeliers, directly in front of the audience. While the design offers a surprising

degree of intimacy, it offers poor sight lines no matter where you sit. This leads to the occasionally frustrating experience of being entirely cut out of a key moment between the two sisters.

But while you might miss out on a minute or two, the remainder of the play is dramatic, biting and somewhat frazzled. The hour spent with the sisters remains fascinating, thanks in part due to the emergence of the long-lost Arsinoe. By the end, it's certainly easy to understand why it's titled *Cleopatra's Sister*.



SUPPLIED: IAN JACKSON

Local musicians mine folk music history

MUSIC PREVIEW

Joe Vickers and Spencer Jo

WHEN | Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 9 p.m.

WHERE | Black Dog Freehouse (10425 82 Ave.)

HOW MUCH | Free

Peggy Jankovic

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER • @PEGGHETTI

For Edmonton musician Joe Vickers, folk music is an archaeological project. Separate from his usual role as frontman of folk-punk outfit Audio/Rocketry, his two most recent releases delve into the past, complementing each other as works anchored in history with an appreciation for the hardships of times gone by.

"To fully understand the present, I believe that you have to start at the origin and investigate into the past," he says.

Vickers' solo effort, *Valley Home*, is a comprehensive insight on the history of coal mining in his hometown of Drumheller. A project associated with the Drumheller Valley Mining Centennial, it's heavily based on in-depth research and in-person interviews.

This is an ambitious project: Vickers even includes a 24-page booklet of archived images and stories behind the folk songs.

"For me, in terms of development in songwriting, it forced me to look outside of personal experiences, to write stories that are historic and real," he explains. "I often found, when I was able to make a connection, whether it be with somebody who was sharing a story with me, the stories then came to life through our conversation, and I could sense their emotion behind each topic. That really allowed me to channel that into the musical medium."

"There's a lot of wisdom and stories (in folk music) that we could be learning from that we're neglecting."

SPENCER JO

"It's something that I hope, for those that are familiar with the stories, they can reflect and reminisce about the past, and then for those who are unfamiliar with them, shed some light onto the history."

In addition to *Valley Home*, Vickers is releasing *Kitchen Chorus Songbook*, a collaboration with Calgary's Spencer Jo, whom he met while playing a house show. As Vickers finished his set in the kitchen, the two got to talking about old folk songs, eventually staying up all night playing for each other.

"We've played all over in our respective bands, and then we'd often think back to the way we met," says Jo. "Eventually, it became a dialogue for a project that came to fruition just now."

With this collection of old folk songs, the duo's mission is, as Vickers says, "to raise awareness to this old wisdom that seems lost on much of our generation."

"There's a lot of wisdom and stories (in folk music) that we could be learning from that we're neglecting," Jo reflects. Vickers agrees, adding that he finds it important to share the songs that have inspired them, as preserving the stories is an essential part of the survival of folk music itself.

Kitchen Chorus also invites listeners to connect with the songs on a deeper level through the inclusion of a songbook. The booklet, with complete chords and lyrics, provides an opportunity to fully experience the folk songs on the album.

"You can just sing along, and you can play along, and that puts you way more in touch with the song than just hearing it," says Jo. "I think learning the songs gains you a much closer personal perspective — I understand stories way better when I learn the song."

"It's important to us to share these songs," Vickers adds. "Preserving the oral tradition is important when we live in a very disposable time."

fashion streeters

Juliana Damer



Evgeni Matveev

SCIENCE II

GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.

EVGENI: I'm wearing Zara shoes and Bluenotes jeans. This coat is Benny from Paris — my parents brought it back from there. My sweater is from Bluenotes and these are fake glasses from Mars & Venus. My longboard is made by this local guy and I found it on Kijiji.

GATEWAY: What's your favourite thing you have on?

EVGENI: My shoes — they're really comfortable and warm.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.



SEYED HOSSEIN MORTAZAVI

Cast of *Billy Wilder* lost in a mythical Hollywood world

Shadow Theatre's season premiere delves into a silver screen obsession

THEATRE REVIEW

Bless You Billy Wilder

WHEN | Runs until Tuesday, Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m., matinee shows weekends at 2 p.m., no shows Mondays

WHERE | Varscona Theatre (10329 83 Ave.)

WRITTEN BY | David Belke

DIRECTED BY | John Hudson

STARRING | Kendra Connor and Troy O'Donnell

HOW MUCH | Starting at \$20
tixonthesquare.ca

Charlotte Forss

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Whether it's all-consuming love or unbridled ambition, obsession is a common theme in all types of art: the passion, loneliness and ultimate descent into madness are all building blocks of a familiar story. In *Bless You Billy Wilder*, the obsessions showcased onstage create drastic changes in the characters who hold them.

Emil Dyer (Troy O'Donnell) is a reclusive screenwriter obsessed with movies, and with one in particular: the 1924 silent film *Greed*. The film is the story of a dentist fatally obsessed with money, and Emil is on a quest to restore the depressing masterpiece, edited without its director's permission, to its full nine and a half

hour glory. But the play truly begins when Emil meets Patience (Kendra Connor), an artist hired to write the film's title cards. Their friendship may be the key to preventing his complete disconnect with the real world. Through their relationship, the play explores fixation, alienation and the power of friendship, with a deep love of classic Hollywood in the background, including the dark influence of *Greed* and sunnier references to Billy Wilder, director of such golden age classics as *The Seven Year Itch* and *Some Like It Hot*.

The two-person show tries to be equal parts heartwarming odd-couple friendship, with a nod to classic cinema. But combining comedy and drama sometimes loses emotional power. The jokes are too spread out to create a consistently funny show, and the moments of emotional anguish don't last long enough to have an emotional impact. While the eccentric characters are entertaining, neither seem believable as real people.

While their characters are somewhat far-fetched, actors Kendra Connor and Troy O'Donnell carry them well, moving the story along through body language as much as dialogue. Connor, playing a girl emerging from a childhood spent in an isolated religious colony, has never seen a movie and is incredibly nervous — her eyes dart, her shoulders hunch and her hands compulsively adjust her somewhat frumpy dress. O'Donnell,

meanwhile, exudes a certain affable awkwardness, padding about his Post-it note plastered apartment with comfortable bounces and flopping down without ceremony on a squashy couch. But as both the play and the friendship progress, Connor's character becomes more confident while O'Donnell's becomes increasingly consumed with *Greed*, reversing their roles. Connor's posture improves, and her hands are no longer clenched but instead gesture delicately. O'Donnell's movements, in contrast, become jerky and sporadic.

Although the character development is convincing, the drama of Emil's deterioration relies more on well-designed lighting — a menacing magenta in the background and a backlit portrait of the ferocious Von Stroheim — and cinematic background music than on the movements and words of the actors. Patience and Emil's friendship is at its most convincing when they're trading movie lines or engrossed in a film rather than in heavy emotional scenes.

Although *Bless You Billy Wilder* sometimes fails to engage powerful emotion, it remains a fun tribute to the wonderful world of the movies. Strong acting and skillful design go some way towards making up for a less-than-believable script, and anyone who loves movies can't help but feel fondness for a friendship based on curling up in front of a screen with a big bowl of popcorn.

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-LFO, "SUMMER GIRLS" (1999)

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AMIRALI SHARIFI

Yellow Moon lights up with unusual narrative approach

THEATRE REVIEW

Yellow Moon: The Ballad of Leila and Lee

WHEN Runs until Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m., matinee performance Thursday, Nov. 10 at 12:30 p.m.

WHERE Timms Centre for the Arts (87th Avenue and 112th Street)

WRITTEN BY David Greig

DIRECTED BY Jan Selman

STARRING Richard Lam, Sereana Malani, Tristan Mi, Alyson Dicey and Paula Humby

HOW MUCH \$10 at the Timms box office

Paige Gorsak

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @PAIGEGORSK

"Are you coming, or are you coming?" Stag Lee asks Silent Leila in *Yellow Moon*. The question seems posed to the audience as well, as writer David Greig's grim poetic ballad denounces conventions to pull spectators down the rabbit hole of new-age theatre.

Studio Theatre's first BFA student performed production of the season, *Yellow Moon* tells the story of 'Silent' Leila (Sereana Malani) and 'Stag' Lee (Richard Lam), two disillusioned teens whose lonely lives are forced together by fate when they meet in a late-night grocery store. The unlikely pair come together following a mur-

der, bound by the incredulity of being "in a story."

They flee their hometown for the Scottish highlands through fear and foul weather, seeking Lee's estranged father, who once lived up the mountain. On their journey they also encounter Frank (Tristan Mi), the desolate caretaker of Lee's father's house struggling with his own past demons and regrets, and Holly Malone (Paula Humby), a disenfranchised teen actress who just wishes she was "normal." Beginning with two angst-ridden teens looking to lie low, an emotional rollercoaster emerges about relationships, love and what it means to be and feel alive.

Greig's piece is striking in the amount of the script that is narration as opposed to dialogue and acting. The actors play "storytellers," narrating each scene before the characters jump in and explain themselves, only occasionally acting out the events. This disjointed style keeps the audience removed from the actual story, instead watching as witnesses or confidantes for the characters as they delve into the deepest secrets of their souls. *Yellow Moon* tears down the fourth wall to get at the characters' motivations for their actions.

To make this style choice even more clear, director Jan Selman begins the play without any expected theatrical ceremony: all five actors and two technicians trek out on the stage where they look straight at the audience and smile, as if to say, "Here we are. Get ready to watch us."

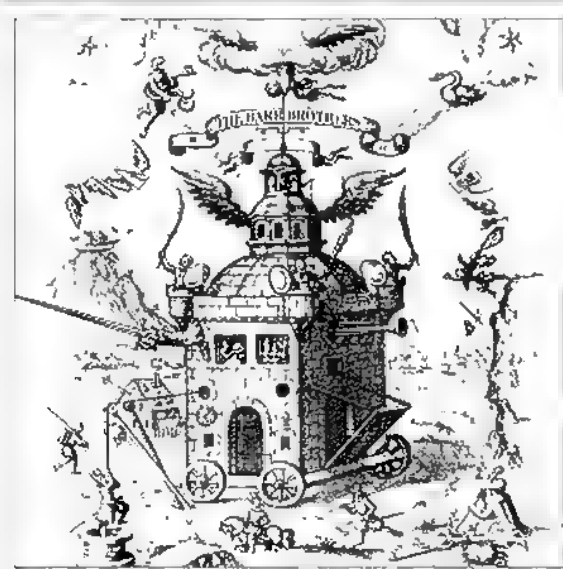
This venture is a testament to the potential of contemporary theatre as well as to the powerful ability of the young cast in a challenging piece. If at first *Yellow Moon* seems perplexing and even frustrating, it takes only a few scenes to adjust to the unique narrative style.

Similar to a first-person narrative novel where the reader looks in on the narrator's thoughts and opinions, *Yellow Moon* offers the audience perspectives that are not part of the story. When Lee asks Silent Leila why she came with him, she cries out, "When I'm with you, I feel like I'm real" — before the narrators rewind the scene and show how their interaction actually played out. By combining omniscience with objective narration, *Yellow Moon* enables the audience to see and feel the emotions of the story more deeply.

At its core, *Yellow Moon* is a coming-of-age story about the trials and tribulations of personal growth. Despite a unique narrative style, it's impossible not to share in the character's sentiments, because each individual is inherently relatable. Whether it's dealing with feelings of regret, unrequited love or the first pangs of sexual attraction, *Yellow Moon* is genuine.

As a play that seeks to renounce theatrical conventions, *Yellow Moon* is an absolute success. Driven by strong performances from fresh young faces and a skillful director, this gripping piece is different than any other theatre performance audiences have seen.

ALBUM REVIEW



The Barr Brothers

Secret City Records
thebarrbrothers.com

Ryan Stephens
ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

With so many folk bands resorting to the same tired methods of playing music, it's refreshing to hear a group like The Barr Brothers who are willing to experiment.


As the self-titled album begins, there isn't a single twang of the guitar for more than a minute — and no lyrics either, for that matter. In-

stead, opener "Beggar in the Morning" treats us to a melodic build-up of ghostly guitar effects and something that sounds like the soft chirping of birds. It's a wonderful feeling for an autumn release, and an indicator of the good that's yet to come.

Brothers Andrew and Brad fill the background of their songs with a

variety of sounds you wouldn't expect to from a folk album, from the occasional harp to a surprise appearance of steel drums. It seems as though the Barr Brothers might have thrown in any instruments that happened to be lying around the studio, but at the same time, it's done with precision and subtlety — although not without the occasional misstep. The sleepy tune "Cloud (for Lhasa)" offers little in terms of experimentation, and you'll be hard pressed to stay awake throughout the soft plucking of guitar and sleepy, uninspired vocals.

Aside from a brief lapse into standard folk malaise, the album finishes on a high note, its variation making for an ideal album for your autumnal folk needs.



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Ohbijou seek out organic inspiration for *Metal Meets*

MUSIC PREVIEW

Ohbijou

WITH Snowblink

WHEN Monday, Nov. 14 at 8 p.m.

WHERE The Haven Social Club
(15120 Stony Plain Rd.)

HOW MUCH \$15 at yeglive.ca

Ravanne Lawday

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

While they spend long periods of time travelling, the members of Ohbijou aren't worn down by the time spent on the road— instead, it's a source of inspiration. Over the phone from their tour van, lead singer Casey Mecija's voice is punctuated by the laughter of her bandmates in the background. The obviously tight-knit group is at ease with their constant movement.

“(Metal Meets) is an exploration of relationships, whether they’re elemental — located in the environment — or if they’re personal with someone you love.”

CASEY MECIJA
VOCALIST, OHBIJOU

“After the release of (our last album) *Beacons*, we all — as a group and individually — experienced a shifting in geography in terms of where we were living and where we were travelling,” Mecija says. “It carried a lot of the inspiration for this new record.”

The emphasis on international travel has also become essential for the band, as they come into contact with new cultures while on tour. “After the release of *Beacons* we toured quite extensively,” Mecija says. “We were all

over Canada and Europe, and had an amazing opportunity to go to Asia. Those travels definitely impacted our writing and perspectives on the world and how we live in it.”

While every destination on tour played a role in the creative process for their latest work, Mecija cites one specific location as being particularly meaningful to the group, and a crucial place for the formation of their latest album *Metal Meets*. “The entire record is kind of housed in a particular place — it's called Cypress Bay in the Bruce Peninsula. It's a tiny cottage that we wrote the record in and had a lot of times together as a band, working out the kinks of our writing and the way that we

play together,” she explains. “I think that as a whole, the album is very much rooted there.”

New experimental features of *Metal Meets* allow for further expression of the album's abstract concepts. With the concept of metal at the centre, the band creates a narrative about the interactions between people and the natural world.

“We referenced ‘metal meets’ a number of times within the lyrics of the record, and decided to call our album that,” Mecija explains. “The album is an exploration of relationships, whether they're elemental — located in the environment — or if they're personal with someone that you love ... The record as a whole is an

exploration of these relationships and trying to find a way to re-imagine and re-articulate them in different words and in different melodies.”

While it's based in something abstract, *Metal Meets* is ultimately a celebration of human connections. And as Ohbijou stays on the move, they delve even deeper into the power their songs hold.

“There's always the hope of creating a relationship with people that share the same experience across borders,” Mecija says. “It's nice to always remember that music has the potential to create relationships without actually having to meet the people that it touches.”



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Tangible theatrical joy with zany Rocky Horror characters

THEATRE REVIEW

The Rocky Horror Show

WHEN Runs until Sunday, Nov. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

WHERE The Citadel Theatre (9828 101A Ave.)

WRITTEN BY Richard O'Brien

DIRECTED BY Leigh Rivenbark

STARRING John Ulyatt, Evan Alexander Smith and Joséé Boudreau

HOW MUCH Starting at \$20 at the Citadel box office

Garrett Rosser

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

From Richard O'Brien's original 1973 stage play to the 1975 cult midnight cinema classic, the legendary *Rocky Horror Show* is gyrating, jiggling and stripping its way onto the stage of Edmonton's very own Citadel Theatre. But no buttered toast or hotdogs allowed, please.

If you've never seen the story's film incarnation, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, just imagine '50s rock n' roll swingin' and boppin', à la *Grease*, but with Danny Zuko as a six-foot tall evil genius in a corset, and the T-Birds and Pink Ladies assembled as his kinky retinue of servants. But most *Rocky Horror* fans should already know what to expect: the lobby of the theatre before the show is full of impending mania, with the sultry ambiance of the crowd gathering together in corsets and heels, many bearing their hairy legs and chests in all their manly transvestite glory.

They are, of course, paying tribute to the transvestite legend that is Frank N. Furter, played by John Ulyatt. Edmonton's favourite acting son delivers an energetic performance dancing, singing and strutting around the stage in six-inch heels. The rest of the cast keeps the energy high throughout with everyone standing up to do the time warp (twice!) and letting loose confetti and rolls of toilet paper across the theatre. Saying that audience participation is encouraged is an understatement — the infamous



SAM BROOKS

antics of *The Rocky Horror Show* are unstoppable. Selling rolls of toilet paper and noisemakers for cheap at the door probably didn't hurt either.

If like main character Janet (Joséé Boudreau) you're a virgin to *Rocky Horror*, don't be intimidated — it won't hurt. As soon as she and fiancé Brad (Evan Alexander Smith) show up at Frank N. Furter's ominous castle in the middle of nowhere after their car breaks down, the outlandish world of *The Rocky Horror Show* takes over. Following the engaged couple as they stand witness to Frank N. Furter's scientific experiments with the "secret to life itself" creating the buff specimen that is Rocky Horror (Jamie McKnight),

they demonstrate that what goes on behind closed curtains doesn't ever stay there.

Backed by a flawless live band and spectacular set, the cast lets loose musical mayhem, breathing new life into a classic. From introspective ditties like "Over at the Frankenstein Place" to rocking ballads like "Sweet Transvestite," the *Rocky Horror* soundtrack is an energetic roller coaster that keeps its audience in anticipation of what's to come. Always exciting and unique to theatre yet true to the original, the directorial debut of Leigh Rivenbark at the Citadel puts *Rocky Horror* back on the stage with all the original momentum of the classic cult film.

An edgy tale of forbidden young love

FILM REVIEW

Circumstance

WHEN Runs until Thursday, Nov. 10 at various times

WHERE Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)

WRITTEN BY Maryam Keshavarz

DIRECTED BY Maryam Keshavarz

STARRING Sarah Kazemy, Nikohl Boosheri and Reza Sixo Safai

Ravanne Lawday

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

Art is often a tool used to subvert societal boundaries, and *Circumstance* is no exception here. Set in Iran, the film offers a gritty, brutally honest and ultimately inspiring look into the underground youth culture of a deeply religious and conservative society.

The film follows two young women in love and the turbulent lives of their family and friends. Parents Firouz (Soheil Parsa) and Azar (Nasrin Pakkho) have raised their children in an affluent environment filled with music, expression and free thought.

After a stay in rehab, their son turns to religion to stay sober, but their teenage daughter Atafeh (Nikohl Boosheri) is just beginning to discover the taboo side of her own city.

Atafeh and her best friend Shireen (Sarah Kazemy) experiment with drugs, provide voice-overs for provocative films and — worst of all — drive cars. Along this culturally rebellious path, the girls fall in love with each other, and dream of fleeing the country as a couple. The hopes they share place them in a precarious situation within the rest of their conservative Muslim society, and creating a series of hardships throughout this intellectually stimulating film.

The unconventional cinematography, stirring soundtrack and ambitious plot results in a movie that differs greatly from the expected formula of popular cinema, with touching moments and esthetically beautiful scenes that will keep a thoughtful audience engaged. And while the compilation of music seems overwhelming at first, the songs are a crucial part of the two young lesbians' search for freedom of expression, as singing embodies both private moments with

each other and their public lives with family and friends. The hefty plot, with all its twists and turns, is easy to get lost in, but with the help of a talented young cast working towards a clear goal, *Circumstance* emerges with a successful storyline.

Although the cast is composed mostly of new actors, the group's natural talent is apparent from the earliest scenes in the movie. Boosheri and Kazemy — both making their film debut in *Circumstance* — complement each other without stealing the spotlight altogether. Although portraying a romance scene in a believable way can be a challenge, the duo turns every brief encounter into a thing of beauty and authenticity. The cast as a whole work fluidly together to turn a potentially confusing plot into a gripping, edgy and inspiring tale.

Circumstance is an easily relatable story: a tale of teenage rebellion and romance. But the honest edge and grit of the film sets it apart from many of the popular releases of today, rising above the ranks of the fast-paced Hollywood blockbuster to create an honest, provocative and truly artistic work.

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4:00 - 9:00 p.m.

- Hosted by Jasper and Elk Island National Parks
- Presentations at 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.
- For more information, go to www.parkscanada.gc.ca/jasper or www.parkscanada.gc.ca/elkIsland

PARCS CANADA
SÉANCE PORTES OUVERTES

Le jeudi 17 novembre

Alumni Room, Students' Union Building

De 16 h à 21 h

- Présentée par les parcs nationaux Jasper et Elk Island
- Exposés à 17 h et à 19 h
- Pour en savoir davantage, veuillez consulter les sites Web www.parkscanada.gc.ca/jasper ou www.parkscanada.gc.ca/elkIsland

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Sports

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Sports meetings Thursdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

SCOREBOARD
PANDAS FIELD HOCKEY
CIS NATIONALS
NOV. 3-5

VS. UBC THUNDERBIRDS, NOV. 3



0



2

VS. UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH GRYPHONS, NOV. 4



2



3

VS. UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY DINOS, NOV. 5



0

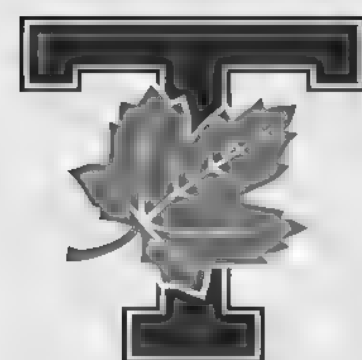


3

VS. UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO VARSITY BLUES, NOV. 5



0



2



FILE PHOTO ARMAND ILIDICK

Straight-set wins for volleyball Pandas

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Pandas @ Huskies

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-12
University of Saskatchewan

Atta Almasi

SPORTS WRITER

The volleyball Pandas defeated the Thompson Rivers WolfPack in straight-set wins this weekend, and are hoping to carry some of this momentum forward when the team travels east to Saskatoon to take on the University of Saskatchewan Huskies.

Despite the victories, the 2-0 Pandas, who took care of the WolfPack 25-21, 25-21, 25-15 on Friday and by an identical score on Saturday, acknowledge that there's still lot's of work to do.

"I can't complain about the outcome," said head coach Laurie Eisler. "I was a little bit happier with our performance (Friday) night even

though there might have been more mistakes. We weren't crisp at all (Saturday). We started okay but we were fighting it big time through the second half of the match and that's dangerous against anybody. And, I think, in some respects, we got a little bit lucky (Saturday)."

Eisler said it's hard to say whether or not their performance against TRU will translate into success against the Huskies this weekend.

"Most volleyball games are won in the serve and the receive game and if we take care of those two phases then we have a fighting chance against anyone. This weekend, I'd say we were fighting it a little bit in both serve and receive, so we need to be better in that."

The Huskies have been having a hard time of it lately. Coming into this season ranked last in Canada West, they did not win a set in any of their pre-season games and have already struggled out of the gate with losses to Trinity Western and Regina, putting their record at 0-4 to start the regular season.

The Pandas swept the Huskies last year in Edmonton when they played them and were

victorious against them in a pre-season tournament in Regina two months ago, but are not discounting them as a threat this season. Eisler said every game is important.

"Every point counts. I think in our conference the difference between the bottom and the top isn't as great as you might think. And this is a really, really tough sport to play if you don't bring your game. So we're certainly not taking anyone for granted."

And with strong threats such as outside hitter Candace Hueser, whom Eisler called a "good, aggressive offensive player," tall middle players who can "hit some steep angles," and a setter in Erin Foster who "moves the ball around pretty well," the Pandas cannot afford not to be on their top game against the Huskies.

"We've got lots of things to work on and we need to be better in virtually every phase of the game," Eisler said. "So there's lots of things that we need to be focusing on going into Saskatchewan."

The games are at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at the U of S.

Soccer Pandas hunt for more medals at nationals

SOCCER PREVIEW

Pandas @ CIS nationals

Wednesday to Sunday, Nov. 9-13
McGill University, Montreal

Nick Ong

SPORTS STAFF

The soccer Pandas are headed to CIS nationals for the first time in 10 years after clinching the silver medal in the Canada West championships in Vancouver last weekend.

Finishing conference play with a win and a tie on their final weekend and a 9-4-1 overall standing in the regular season, the Pandas weren't pegged as the favourites to advance to nationals from the CanWest championship, where they faced strong teams such as Trinity Western University and the University of British Columbia.

But after some hard work, the Pandas were able to come out in second place with TWU taking the gold medal. The Pandas played two very close games last weekend, with a 1-0 win

against the UBC Thunderbirds and a 2-1 shootout win for TWU.

"The results demonstrate the commitment of the team to compete to win with the best in the Canada West league," head coach Liz Jepsen wrote in an email to *The Gateway*. "The team carried out a good plan to the playoff weekend and competed with a determination to achieve our primary goal — a berth to nationals. I commend each and every person involved with the team for their ability to work together to accomplish this."

Veteran keeper Kelti Biggs stood out as a top player over the course of the weekend, according to Jepsen.

"(Biggs) was a stand-out in the UBC game, making a number of tremendous and well-timed saves, particularly during the UBC penalty kicks where she made three big stops."

Jepsen also named midfielder Darcie Kutryk, "who stepped beyond typical midfield demands to break up plays both in the mid-field and defense lines. This increased the demands of the midfield as they were tasked to cover an extra opponent in the midfield."

The Pandas played some of their best soccer of the season last weekend and advance

to play against the best teams in the country starting Nov. 10. McGill University is the national host. The Pandas will also face Queen's University, Dalhousie University, Wilfred Laurier University and the University of Ottawa. This will be the first time since 2001 that the Pandas have fielded a team at nationals and Jepsen is extremely pleased with this result.

"These games will help us determine both the quality of competition and the manner in which to compete," Jepsen said. "I am pleased to see that the efforts of all involved have been rewarded by a placing in nationals. The Canada Western league is extremely competitive and it takes strong planning, a commitment to excellence in training, and many sacrifices by all involved (to succeed)."

Jepsen said that at this stage of competition, her team will be refining their game play in specific attacking and defending sets.

"This is an excellent opportunity for the Pandas soccer squad to experience the strength of the best in Canada in varsity soccer. This cutting edge competition is exactly what the Pandas squad have been trained to encounter. It is a great opportunity for the athletes to engage in do-or-die situations on the soccer pitch."

Puck Pandas hope to change their losing luck

Pandas lose to Pronghorns for the first time in 15 years in double hits last weekend, now have six-game losing streak

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Pandas @ T-Birds

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-12
University of British Columbia

Rebecca Medel

SPORTS EDITOR

The hockey Pandas have lost six consecutive games after falling this weekend to the Lethbridge Pronghorns, making it a tough three weeks for the Green and Gold.

The team started the season on a high with two wins against the Manitoba Bisons, but so far haven't been able to repeat those victories. The Pandas are sitting in third place in Canada West behind Lethbridge at first and Saskatchewan and Calgary tied for second.

"We're not playing badly, but I think we're trying to not lose rather than playing for the win. I think we've got a great team. I know we've got amazing potential. And I'm confident it's going to come. We just need a few breaks to get going in the right direction," Pandas head coach Howie Draper said.

As for the Pronghorns, this last weekend was the first time they beat the Pandas in 15 years. The Horns earned a 4-3 shootout win on Friday and 2-1 OT victory on Saturday when Amy Van Buskirk slipped the puck past net minder Kaitlyn Chapman, who made 23 saves that game.

Pronghorns head coach Chandy Kaip said that the wins are obviously very exciting and the start of a comeback for her team.

"Our girls battled so hard to come back and we've been trying to really battle and focus on our D-zone and

then we knew the offense would start coming. Fortunately, it happened twice this weekend so we're very happy.

"U of A's always been a powerhouse team. They've always been a team where you know you need to show up every single shift or it can be devastation."

Draper acknowledged Lethbridge's strong defense, but also gave some of his own reasons for the double losses.

"I think Lethbridge has got a good team and I think they executed their game plan very well. They didn't give us a lot of opportunity — the goalie was strong. They did what they needed to do to be successful against us. I think to a certain extent we kind of beat ourselves. We played the second period like we were afraid we were going to lose again. We're just one of those teams right now where I don't think we're showing what we have."

Draper said it seemed like the team was nervous in the second period of Saturday's game of getting scored on again because of the way things have gone for them the past three weekends. He said once the team gets past that fear, they'll be fine.

"We've been getting better every week. Unfortunately we just haven't been able to demonstrate it in games. So we've got to get back to it this week and try to continue to improve from the last week. Eventually it's going to come."

This season's games have all been close losses for the Pandas, with five of the past six resulting in either a shootout or overtime. But close doesn't cut it.

"As they say, close only counts in hand grenades and horseshoes,"



J. LIANNA DAMER

Draper said.

This weekend the Pandas head to UBC to play the 1-4-1 Thunderbirds. Like the Pandas, the T-Birds recorded their sole win of the season in their first weekend of play in a 4-2

home win against the Pronghorns. But Draper doesn't let the wins or losses of the opposing team affect his strategy.

"We can't be too worried about who we're playing. We know that

any team in Canada West could win on any given night this year, so we've got to be prepared to play our best hockey."

The Friday and Saturday games are both at 7 p.m. at UBC.

Hoop Bears ready to take on number one ranked Huskies

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Bears vs. Huskies

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-12
Saville Community Sports Centre
8 p.m.

Nick Ong

SPORTS STAFF

One win and a very close loss was how the Golden Bears basketball team started off the season last weekend in two away games against the Manitoba Bisons.

Bears' head coach Greg Francis called the Bisons a very strong team.

"They are a very tricky team, as they shoot the ball low and are also very quick. We have more size against them, but they have a very good shooting game. So we have to make sure that we play our style of game, with our tempo, where we can be more deliberate," Francis said.

The Bears beat the Bisons 91-81 on Friday only to lose by two points the next night as Manitoba had an 85-83 home turf victory.

This weekend the Bears will be hosting Saskatchewan, who won their first and only game so far of the season against Regina last weekend 105-68. In order to prepare to play such strong competitors, the Bears were doing some pretty technical things on the court at practice. With high-speed cameras capturing player's running speeds, while others were caught



FILE PHOTO: AARON YEO

on video shooting hoops, jumping and maintaining their balance in a battery of physical tests seemingly more suited to an astronaut training program than a university

basketball team.

Monitoring all this from his laptop, Francis said the computerized physical testing is just one way the Bears are preparing for the

upcoming season.

"The preparation has been very good. I think the guys are very used to the way we train and are pushing themselves to train harder, so I am very happy with the preparations."

Last season the Bears were fourth overall in Canada West playoff standings, a feat that Francis is aiming for again this season.

"It was a big goal for us to make the top four in the conference last year and we achieved that, which was amazing. I think it would be great if we can get back to that level."

That would mean defeating competitors like the UBC Thunderbirds, whose mature team dominated Can-West last season. However, Francis feels UBC's dominance will change this season because the team's star players, who were in their fifth-year last season, have now graduated. Francis added that although time may have weakened the other teams, it has only made his team grow stronger.

"I think one of the best things that has happened for our team is that we are a year older. We had a very young team last year and most of our core players were in their second year. Now that they are in they are in their third year, the guys are more experienced; they are stronger and understand the system better. They also understand each other better as players."

Forward Saffa Sahr agreed that having many returning players will be a positive for the team.

"We are clicking on all cylinders and everyone is playing pretty well. We have that cohesion because we have been together for a few years now. We are going in not with a sense of cockiness, but with a confidence in our game and the potential to play well."

With this player cohesion in mind, Francis has not added many new players to the roster this season, though some notable exceptions have been made.

"The players we did add (this year) are going to be good for us. One such player is Adam Weir, from Red Deer College. He will be playing as forward, and at 6'7" he is a good scorer in the low post, so he will definitely help us there."

Francis also mentioned centre Andrew Bates from Grant MacEwan University as another new addition to the team, but the Green and Gold will also be fielding one of their star players, guard Daniel Ferguson, who was one of the top scorers last season with an average of 23 points per game.

"He's a great scorer, and he is also a fifth-year player, giving us a lot of leadership on as well as off the court and I think that he has added many things to his game. He is a very good scorer who has been making other players on his team score better, so he has been a great for us," Francis said.

The Bears host the Huskies Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. at the Saville Community Sports Centre.

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ZAIN NAQVI

First weekend of action an ace for Bears volleyball

VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP

Bears @ Huskies

Friday and Saturday, Nov. 11-12
University of Saskatchewan

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

For a team that finished fifth nationally last year, pulling off two wins in the first weekend of play might seem expected, but both of last weekend's games started off slow for the Bears volleyball team and the outcome could've gone either way.

The number two ranked Bears hosted Thompson Rivers last weekend, and walked away with a 3-0 win on Friday and 3-1 win on Saturday. The WolfPack have a 1-3 season so far but have strong players like first-year right-side Brad Gunter, who made 18 kills in Saturday's game. Third-year left-side Jay Olmstead led the Bears with 21 kills over the weekend and three aces in

Saturday's game.

"They were good wins," Bears head coach Terry Danyluk said.

"It's nice to be able to play at home finally. It's been a long time. We've only actually had seven practices in this gym and one exhibition match in September, so it was sort of the first opportunity to see what it was going to be like to play here," Danyluk added of the volleyball Bears' new home at the Saville Community Sports Centre.

Danyluk said the Bears' hesitant play on Saturday night might have been a result of the WolfPack playing much better in that game than in Friday's.

"They started off (Saturday) doing some different things that we couldn't stop and it took us awhile to adjust. When we finally adjusted we were able to sort of change the momentum. I felt like when we weren't able to stop them, we got hesitant and quiet for awhile and in a game you can't afford to do that. You have to stay aggressive and try to stay a step ahead of the other team."

The Bears were able to change the game's momentum in their favour after a slow start in the first set that saw the WolfPack take the lead at 25-20. However, a change of pace in the second set had the Bears end 10 points above the WolfPack at 25-15.

"Once we adapted and made a couple of changes, the momentum shifted in our favour. This game is a game of momentum," Danyluk said. "We have nine new people, so we're still feeling ourselves out as a team. But there's no more time for excuses like that. Everybody knows what we have to do to go and we have to be consistent. Our behaviours have to be consistent. Our preparation has to be consistent and then make adjustments for the opponents."

The Bears head to Saskatchewan this weekend to play the 1-3 Huskies. Danyluk said that in addition to playing a consistent game, the guys need to keep up the tempo by encouraging one another throughout the entire game, not just when things are going well.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TOP THREE



4-0
THREE STRAIGHT-
SET GAMES



2-0
ONE STRAIGHT-SET
GAME



2-0
ZERO STRAIGHT-SET
GAMES



2-0
TWO STRAIGHT-SET
GAMES



4-0
ZERO STRAIGHT-
SET GAMES



2-0
ONE STRAIGHT-SET
GAME

U of T Varsity Blues match up first, winner moves on

Bears @ CIS Nationals

Rebecca Medel
SPORTS EDITOR

"It was a huge undertaking, but we felt confident that we've gotten a little bit better weekend by weekend and we've put some of our defensive frailties to one side and, more importantly, we've gotten most of our players back into the line-up," Vickery said.

This is the first time since 2003 the Bears will be competing at nationals. That year they won the CIS trophy and if they accomplish the same feat this year, it'll be their fifth national title since the 1972-73 season.

COMPILED BY **Rebecca Medel**

This makes for three consecutive wins for the Bears who now sit at 6-2-2 and are ranked number two in Canada West. They're back on the ice this weekend,



FILE PHOTO: PETER HOLMES

Alberta is tied with Winnipeg and Calgary in the east division and Trinity Western in the west division — all at 2-0 — as the season gets underway.

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

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GOLDEN BEARS & PANDAS

November 11 & 12

SEASON HOME OPENER

GOLDEN BEARS & PANDAS BASKETBALL VS SASKATCHEWAN

GOLDEN BEARS BASKETBALL PANDAS

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES			
	PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Fri Nov 11	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Sat Nov 12	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Saskatchewan
Fri Nov 25	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Trinity Western
Sat Nov 26	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Fraser Valley

NOV. 25, 6 PM

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CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES			
	PANDAS	GOLDEN BEARS	VS
Fri Nov 18	6:00 PM	7:30 PM	Winnipeg
Sat Nov 19	7:30 PM	6:00 PM	Winnipeg

Hudsons Party Pass Night

GOLDEN BEARS HOCKEY

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES		
Fri Nov 11	7:00 PM	British Columbia
Sat Nov 12	7:00 PM	British Columbia

PANDAS HOCKEY

CANADA WEST CONFERENCE GAMES		
Fri Nov 25	7:00 PM	Regina
Sat Nov 26	7:00 PM	Regina

HOME GAME VENUES

- Golden Bears and Pandas Hockey play at Clare Drake Arena 88 Ave. & 115 St.
- Basketball and Volleyball play at Saville Community Sports Centre 11610-65 Ave.

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Diversions

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Comics meetings Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

COMICS

POP & ICE CREAM by Lance and Evan Mudryk



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DISAPPOINTING SUPERPOWERS by Anthony Goertz



DIY COMICS by Gateway Staff



sudoku

			6	3	4	2	
9		2		1	8		
6	5		7			3	
3	1		2				8
		8	7	1	4	6	
4			8				5 1
	6		4			1	2
		9	2			3	7
8	5	1		7			

crossword

Puzzle provided by BestCrosswords.com
Used with permission.

Across

- 1. Ancient Athens's Temple of ____
- 5. Rubs out
- 9. Seine spot
- 14. Leak slowly
- 15. ____ accompli
- 16. Uneven
- 17. River in central Switzerland
- 18. Salver
- 19. Angered
- 20. Beget
- 22. Caterpillar rival
- 23. Besides
- 24. One who osculates
- 25. Attempts
- 29. Remove hair
- 32. Ambush
- 34. Captivated
- 39. Came down to earth
- 40. Diarist Nin
- 42. One of the Simpsons
- 43. Medieval musician
- 45. Passionate
- 47. Dread
- 49. Mends a shoe
- 50. Thin candles
- 54. "Seinfeld" uncle
- 56. Mine prop
- 57. Gramineous
- 63. " ____ by any other name..."

- 64. Light air
- 65. On ____ with
- 66. Metal pin
- 67. Plains native
- 68. Fast fliers
- 69. Snow conveyances
- 70. Clublike weapon
- 71. Smoke deposit

Down

- 1. Quickly, quickly
- 2. Back
- 3. Architect Saarinen
- 4. Blueprint detail
- 5. A lot
- 6. Capacitance units
- 7. Decree
- 8. Eye sore
- 9. By the day
- 10. Sign of spring
- 11. Actor's parts
- 12. Grenoble's river
- 13. Passover feast
- 21. Tabula ____
- 24. Russian drink
- 25. Did the butterfly
- 26. Anklebones
- 27. 16th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 28. Diner orders
- 30. Makes well
- 31. Black bird
- 33. Tall tales
- 35. Bread spread

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
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56						57	58				59	60	61	62
63						64					65			
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

- 36. 100 dinars
- 37. Salinger girl
- 38. 24 hour periods
- 41. Bit of film, to a photog
- 44. Goals
- 46. General ____ chicken

- 48. Aztec god of rain
- 50. Autocratic Russian rulers
- 51. Month of showers
- 52. Establish as the truth
- 53. Alleviated
- 55. First name in cosmetics

- 57. Glimpse
- 58. Comic Rudner
- 59. Miss
- 60. ____ facto
- 61. The Green Hornet's sidekick
- 62. Formerly, formerly

SERIOUS COMICS by Ross Vincent



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You know what always makes me smile? That part on the Rolling Stones' live album *Get Yer Ya-Yas Out* when an obnoxious woman keeps yelling "Paint it, black!" and they play "Sympathy for the Devil" instead.



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